

THE JOURNAL

• Friday, February 23, 2001 • 50 cents (tax included)

Sports U of A-bound star Roberson named ACCAL MVP [C1]

Arts Old technique, new twist, photo exhibit at Kala Art Institute [C3]

Penning a pig led to new trade for lawyer

East Bay attorney started cartooning for fun, just pursues law to pay the bills until the syndicate pays off

By Tony Hicks
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Stephan Pastis is just another insurance litigator with a wry sense of humor.

No, really. Outside the courtroom, Pastis spends a lot of time in his basement, drawing pictures of a rat, a pig, a zebra and a goat.

"I was always going to be a lawyer," said Pastis, 33, sitting in the well-ceilinged workroom that tends to flood during rainstorms. "It would be crazy to try and be a cartoonist full time."

For years, Pastis drew cartoons, juggling with characters and ideas, but the difficulty of becoming syndicated pushed him to more practical pursuits. Now that improbable childhood dream of drawing comics for a living may actually replace Pastis' business suits, trial briefs and courtroom appearances.

After four years of trying, Pastis signed up with United Feature Syndicate a little more than a year ago to distribute his deadpan "Pearls Before Swine" strip.

One of the largest comic syndicates, United distributes "Peanuts" and "Dilbert." "Pearls" is still in development and hasn't reached newspapers yet.

"It's neither timing nor luck," said Pastis creator Scott Adams, who officially endorsed "Pearls Before Swine" on his Web site and in his newsletter — only the second time he's done that with a fledgling strip. "I read his comic and I liked it."

"Pearls Before Swine" could make it easily into the top 20 of comic strips," Adams said.

Pastis is a normal-enough looking fellow: good manners and well-trimmed short hair with a trimmed mustache and buttoned-down clothes. He's a married Southern California attorney who attended UC Berkeley and UCLA law school.

But, like the slanting basement of



STEPHAN PASTIS of Albany is a lawyer by day and a cartoonist in his spare time. He draws a strip called "Pearls Before Swine." United Feature Syndicate picked up the strip last year.

his Albany home, things are a little off-center.

"(The strip) has a rat and pig and zebra and a goat," Pastis explained. "Nobody has any names — that'll be

a first. The rat is me with all my faults — arrogant, hot temper ... boy, that sounds terrible, doesn't it?"

"The pig is also me, but it's the good qualities. He's humble ... he's

also stupid."

The strip has a fatalistic tone, which Pastis said isn't by design, but

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If a tree falls in a park would it make a sound?

It certainly would if that tree was falling in Canyon Trails Park

By J.R. Deaton
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — If you want to start an argument in this town, all you have to do is start talking about politics, religion or trees.

The city held a public information meeting on Feb. 13 about plans to remove approximately 50 Monterey pine trees in upper Canyon Trail Park. Although the majority of those attending the meeting favored the plan, others in the city do not.

Jill Keimach, the city's community development manager, said in a Feb. 8 report to the council that as part of the city's urban forestry program, the pines would be removed and replaced with "more desirable native species such as California live oak and California buckeye."

She said Canyon Trail Park was selected as a model for a program that identifies older, declining tree species and if successful the program

will be continued later this year at Cerrito Vista Park. During last year's budget process, the City Council allocated \$60,000 for the program.

A letter from the city to Canyon Trail Park neighbors dated Feb. 1 states the Monterey pines located in the upper portion of the park "are nearing the end of their life expectancy" and are subject to "serious insect infestations" which can weaken and kill the trees.

"The long-term goal of the project is to promote indigenous trees in the city's parks and open space areas and to eliminate high fire hazard trees and those species that are inappropriate or present a high maintenance cost."

The "action plan" available on the city's Web site calls for the selected trees to be removed from the park later this month and into March, with the new trees being planted through April of this year. Bruce King, maintenance and engineering services manager, said earlier this week that the timetable is changing and could be delayed about a month.

Mayor Larry Damon said the pur-

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Police curb school bomb threats by playing it cool

By Clare Curley
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Police believe El Cerrito High School administrators were able to curb a series of bomb threats at the school earlier this year by opting to play it cool while investigating the problem.

The most recent threat came on Feb. 7, around 9:30 a.m., allegedly by two youths who called 911 from a cell phone to speak to the CHP dispatcher.

Two male students likely called as a prank to get out of school, police say.

According to El Cerrito Sergeant

Wayne Mann, a voice said, "You have 30 minutes before a bomb goes off."

A school official called the police, who questioned teachers without closing down the school.

In addition, two similar threats were made in January, but there has been no further incident since.

The problem began last year the school was shut down for entire day after a call threatened a bomb would go off. In one case, police say the call came in from a local 7-11 phone booth.

Mann suspects it didn't take stu-

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Roundup controls weeds at Gill Tract, but parents protest its use

By J.R. Deaton
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — A group of Albany parents continues to question and protest the use of the herbicide Roundup at the Gill Tract Agricultural Research Station at 1050 San Pablo Ave.

Roundup is used to control weeds on the 15-acre Gill Tract, a plant biology and research site owned by the University of California and managed by UC-Berkeley's College of Natural Resources. On Wednesday, Feb. 14, two workers sprayed dormant pear trees in the northwest corner of the tract for about 20 min-

utes. Roundup is safe as used at Gill Tract and is not a health danger. A group of about 50 parents and residents called the Albany Coalition for Environmental Health say otherwise.

Written notices were sent home with students Feb. 13 informing parents of the university's plans to use the herbicide sometime between the hours of 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. the next day.

University officials say Roundup is safe as used at Gill Tract and is not a health danger. A group of about 50 parents and residents called the Albany Coalition for Environmental Health say otherwise.

"Children's immune systems are much more vulnerable to toxins than adults," said Dorothea Dorenz, a member of the coalition. Dorenz has a 10-year-old son in Ocean View School, is active in the Albany PTA, and was outside the school on Feb. 14 to protest the spraying and to hand out informational fliers to other parents. "If you don't know how a toxin affects young growing children, then you don't use it — you give the kids the benefit of the doubt," she said.

"Children have smaller livers to

clean toxins out of the bloodstream," Dorenz said. "They're developing, and they're always more affected by exposure to chemicals. Here we have over 425 children exposed to chemicals directly across the street. They say that there's no drift, but we know Roundup stays in the soil for over 350 days, and when the wind blows, it adheres to the particles of the soil and can be breathed."

Dorenz questioned why Roundup was sprayed at the same time as recess — both began about 9:30 a.m. on Feb. 14.

Rosemary Lucier, director of college relations at the College of Natural Resources, said Roundup is applied two to three times a year during the spring and summer growing seasons. She said no other herbicide is currently being used at Gill Tract and that Roundup has been used there for the past four to five years. Lucier said Roundup is "absolutely" safe to use.

"We are very careful in any of our use of chemicals," Lucier said. She said the Roundup spraying is done by hand about six inches above the ground and only on calm days to prevent drift. "We are very cautious

See GILL, Page A10



Honda rolling into El Cerrito

THE NEW HONDA of El Cerrito dealership, weather permitting, continues to go up at 11701 San Pablo Ave. Designed by local architect Kevin Stong, the nearly 38,000 square-foot building and 158,000 square-foot site will offer sales and service for new Honda vehicles. The new dealership should be ready for customers and cars sometime this June.

JOANNA JHANDA/STAFF

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WORTH CHECKING OUT

Black History Month

In observance of Black History Month, professional storyteller Michael McCarty will be at the Citibank branch at 1377 Solano Ave. on Feb. 27 at 11 a.m. imparting the story "Nobody Owns the Sky," a tale about Bessie Coleman by Reeve Lindbergh.

The approximately 30-minute program is free and the public is invited.

NEAT 'Survivor' course

The Neighborhood Emergency Assistance Teams program in El Cerrito and Kensington offers a comprehensive emergency preparedness survival course that includes hands-on practice of firefighting, medical triage, search and rescue, and other skills. The course is offered four consecutive Thursday evenings from 7:15-9:15 p.m. from March 15 through April 5, with the hands-on skills practice session on Saturday April 7 from 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Topics covered include: home and neighborhood preparedness and organization, structural and non-structural hazard mitigation, utility control, fire suppression, hazardous materials awareness, emergency communications, disaster medicine and psychology, damage assessment, and search and rescue. The course is free. For location and reservation, call Pat Caffel, 510-525-7266.

Spring Song and Arts

The Spring Song and Arts Festival will be held from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 4, at the Albany Veterans Memorial Building, 1325 Portland Ave., Memorial Park, Albany. Activities for the whole family include: arts and crafts-making, a silent auction, and special music for all ages with singer Betsy Rose in concert at 1:30 p.m. She brings her special blend of wisdom, humor, and heart that invites the whole family to sing along and celebrate the earth, the power of love and the magic of childhood. Admission is \$6 per person/\$10 family. The festival is a fundraiser for Crestmont School, a parent co-op elementary school. For more in-

formation, call Billie Warden at 510-237-4164.

Toddler Time at library

The Albany Library will be offering a toddler time for children 15 months to 36 months beginning March 8 and ending March 29. The program will be presented on Thursdays from 10:30 to 11 a.m. This fun-filled half hour will introduce parents and their children to books, songs and games appropriate for the youngest readers. Parents must pre-register, and parental participation is a must. There is a limit of one child per adult, as each child needs a lap to sit on. Registration begins February 20. To register, parents can call the children's desk at 526-3720 or visit the Albany Library. The program is funded through the generous support of the Y & H Soda Foundation to the Alameda County Library Foundation.

Pre School Story time

Pre-school Story time, for ages 3 to 5, resumes at the Albany Library Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. The story time series runs from February 14 through March 21st. No sign-up is necessary. For more information, call the children's desk at the library: 526-3720.

Black history program

Celebrate Black History Month by joining Afro-American Storyteller Jamie Myrick in a program of African American stories at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 27, at the Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., Kensington, sponsored by the Friends of the Kensington Library. Open hours are Monday from 1-6 p.m., Tuesday noon-8 p.m., closed Wednesday, Thursday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 1-5 p.m.

Family Story Time

Family Story Time is at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 27, at Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., Kensington. For all ages. Free. Call 510-524-3043.

Ritalin and alternatives

Ritalin/ADHD Workshop: "Ritalin, Is it

Safe, Is it Necessary?" a special workshop on ADD/HD, Ritalin facts and alternative choices, will be held from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, at the Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave. Interactive community workshop sponsored by the National Wellness Foundation, a non-profit organization. Free. Call 528-0162 to reserve space.

Help Find Frogs

Learn how to take part in this year's Berkeley-to-El Sobrante frog survey, 7 p.m. on Monday, March 5, at Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin, Albany; or 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 7, at El Sobrante Library, 4191 Applian Way (at San Pablo Dam Rd.), El Sobrante. Folk singer Nancy Schimmel will lead froggy songs. You'll learn about local frogs and toads and how to identify their chirps and croaks, then listen for calls after dark. Survey sponsors are Friends of Five Creeks, Friends of Baxter Creek, and SPAWNERS (San Pablo Watershed Neighbors Education and Restoration Society). For information call 510-848-9358, e-mail fscreeks@aol.com, or visit www.fivecreeks.org.

Albany Library contest

Enter the Last Lines Contest at the Albany Library! Correctly identify the title and author of 15 fictional works and win 10 Book Bucks. Entry forms and Last Lines available at the Albany Library reference desk. Contest ends Feb. 28. Questions? Call Julie Winkelstein at 526-3720, ext. 19.

Free chess workshop

Robert Haines, National Master in chess, is offering a free drop-in chess workshop in the Edith Stone Room of the Albany Library. This workshop, which is a great opportunity to play chess and also improve your chess game, is held every Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. Chess sets provided. Questions? Call Julie Winkelstein at the Albany Library, 510-526-3720, ext. 19.

Newest member to hold open house tomorrow

Remember this article. It could mean money in your pocket!

Charles Tai the owner of Star Education Supply, the latest business to open in El Cerrito and the newest member of the Chamber of Commerce, promises to give a 10 percent discount to anyone who mentions this article during his store's open house tomorrow from 1 to 3 p.m.

Located in the former Maxwell Office Supply building at 10512 San Pablo Avenue, Star — with its freshly painted, brightly colored front and completely refurbished

El Cerrito Chamber

By Sewall Glinertnick

interior — should be easy to find.

Tai is no newcomer to the education supply business. For the past three years he ran a similar operation called The Shen Store in Richmond's Jacuzzi Center. Quickly becoming the best resource for education books on language arts, math, social studies and science, over the years The Shen Store attracted a growing following of schools, teachers and

parents.

Determined to better serve the community and his customers, Tai's hunt for space to expand brought him to El Cerrito to a new location, a new name and plenty of new merchandise.

The recently opened Star Education Supply facility offers a wide selection of learning aids — ranging from school text book supplements for students through the

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Intoxicated man arrested at Albany Bowl

By K. Osborn

At about 9 p.m. on Feb. 12, Albany officers responded to the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue on reports of a man who was observed staggering into the Albany Bowl. Officers contacted the 54-year-old El Sobrante man, who was found to be intoxicated and unable to care for himself. He was arrested and held to be released when sober.

At about 12:15 a.m. on Feb. 13, Albany officers investigated a white '91 Ford Mustang on the 1000 block of Eastshore Highway that was missing the rear tires. A check found the vehicle had been reported as stolen from San Francisco on Jan. 11. The car was towed and the owner notified.

Shortly before 1 a.m. on Feb. 13, a resident on the 800 block of San Carlos reported that within the previous three hours, thieves had broken into her home and stolen a new silver-colored Specialized 27 speed road bike with red and black stickers. There were no witnesses.

On the evening of Feb. 13, a business on the 1000 block of Eastshore Highway reported that vandals had done damage to the landscaping and sprinkler system while trying to dig up shrubs. There were no witnesses.

On the afternoon of Feb. 13, an Albany Parking Enforcement Officer was flagged down by a resident who reported that a man had just committed a robbery on the 1400 block of Solano Avenue. Albany officers responded and arrested the 20-year-old transient man and transported him to Santa Rita jail.

At about 5 p.m. on Feb. 17, an Albany resident reported that within the previous five minutes, a thief had stolen his aqua-colored mountain bike that was parked on the 700 block of San Pablo Avenue. There were no witnesses.

At about 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 13, a woman at a business on the 1200 block of Solano Avenue reported that a subject described as a black male adult, medium to dark complexion, about 5 feet 10 inches tall, weighing about 180 pounds and wearing a red and gold jacket and tan pants, had stolen her purse. The thief had entered the business, asked for a glass of water, then departed taking the wallet. Police are investigating.

At about 3 a.m. on Feb. 14, Albany officers responded to the 1000 block of Kains Avenue on reports of subjects "rifling" through a vehicle in an apartment complex. Officers arrived on the scene and observed the subjects going through a blue

Toyota Corolla. Officers arrested a 19-year-old Oakland man and two men from Richmond, ages 20 and 22, for auto burglary. Upon investigation, officers discovered a total of 11 cars in the immediate area that they believed had been burglarized by the group. They were transported to the Berkeley jail.

At about 4:30 a.m. on Feb. 14, Albany officers investigated a blue '91 Honda Civic on the 700 block of Cleveland Avenue because the dome light was on. They also discovered that the window had been smashed. There were no witnesses to the vandalism.

At about 6 a.m. on Feb. 14, Albany officers investigated at least eight vehicles on the 500 block of Pierce Street that had been broken into. There were no witnesses, and the owners were notified.

On the morning of Feb. 14, a resident on the 1000 block of Ventura reported that, during the night, thieves broke into his blue '90 Honda Civic and stole the in-dash radio. There were no witnesses.

On the evening of Feb. 14, an El Cerrito woman reported that someone had left a pile of trash and construction debris in the basement and living room of a home on the 700 block of Talbot Avenue. There were no witnesses.

On the evening of Feb. 14, a San Pablo man reported that thieves had broken into his blue '95 Pontiac Grand Am while it was parked in the lot at the Albany Bowl and stole his CD player. An unidentified person reported observing two white male juveniles removing something from the vehicle. Police are investigating.

At about 2:30 a.m. on Feb. 15, Albany officers stopped a white '89 Chevrolet near Pierce Street and Solano Avenue for a vehicle code violation. A check found that the driver was clear but the passenger, a San Pablo woman, was found to have an outstanding warrant from San Mateo in the amount of \$10,000 for being under the influence of drugs. She was arrested. Both were found to have extensive history involving drugs. Since neither could prove ownership of the vehicle, it was impounded.

On the afternoon of Feb. 15, an Albany resident reported that she had just received notice of a Berkeley parking ticket on her gray '81 Toyota that had been stolen on Feb. 6. Berkeley police were notified regarding this and about four hours later located the car on the 1600 block of 10th Street. They did not have anyone in custody, and the owner was contacted.

POLICE REPORT

On the evening of Feb. 13, a resident on 535 Pierce Street reported that thieves had broken into a storage unit and stolen items. There were no witnesses.

On the morning of Feb. 14, a business on the 1300 block of Albany Avenue reported that two men and a thief had entered the two-story building through the back door and stolen a wallet. There were no witnesses.

At about noon on Feb. 14, Albany officers responded to the 500 block of Hillside Avenue where a silver Toyota Camry was blocking a driveway. Officers found that the car had been reported stolen from San Pablo and the owners were notified.

Shortly before 1 a.m. on Feb. 17, Albany officers stopped a Dodge on the 400 block of Albany Avenue for erratic driving. The driver, a 42-year-old man, was intoxicated. He was arrested, cited, and held for release when sober.

On the morning of Feb. 17, a resident on the 900 block of Albany Avenue reported that someone put a water hose through the slot of Cornell School and into the library. There were no witnesses to the vandalism.

On the morning of Feb. 17, a resident on the 900 block of Albany Avenue reported that during the night, thieves had stolen his '84 Toyota Tercel. There were no witnesses.

On the morning of Feb. 17, Albany officers located a white Trooper on the 900 block of Albany Street that had been reported stolen. The owner was notified.

At about 12:30 p.m. on Feb. 17, a Berkeley man reported that a gray '89 Saab had been stolen. It was parked on the 800 block of Kains Avenue. There were no witnesses.

On the evening of Feb. 17, a resident on the 900 block of Albany Street reported that thieves entered his open garage and stole several items. There were no witnesses.

On the night of Feb. 18, officers located a black '90 Ford Taurus on the 1100 block of Eastshore Highway that had been reported stolen. The ignition had been punched, the dashboard pulled out, all four tires were gone, and there was no passenger seat. They have anyone in custody and the owner was notified.

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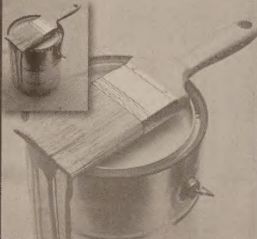
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Opinion

Notes from a gourmet's table

At a recent dinner party, I was paging through a book titled "Notes from a Gourmet's Table: Italy Edition." It's a 300-page hardcover with a colorful, engaging jacket. It looked like any volume that stares back at you from a book shelf, whispering, "Please, read me, read me." But that's where the difference



MIKE CLEARY

The Food and Travel Enthusiast

Consider Barraco's own reaction: "One evening, I gave it my undivided attention, and, surprisingly, I found it to be really interesting." It may seem a little odd remark coming from the author, but the fact is, this genial vice-president of Sub-Zero Distributors didn't know he had written a book. And he was given to him as gifts by his daughter, Jeanette.

Let me tell you what she did, because you might want to do the same for a family member who, like Barraco, enjoys keeping records of travel adventures. (Are you reading this, daughters of mine?) Jeanette and her father kept copious notes on the road. He uses a mini cassette recorder and once home transfers everything onto a computer.

Jim and his wife, Carol, are passionate foodies and travelers who remember everything: people they meet, meals in restaurants, decor in hotel rooms, wine-tastings, etc. So, Jeanette gets into his files, reformats the content, sends it to a printer and then on to a book binder in San Francisco.

Next, it was "Merry Christmas, Dad. Happy reading." This is an interesting gift idea for any occasion. Actually, if my own progeny decide that let's say, Father's Day, they want to do the same, it won't be easy. My journals are all in longhand. Worse, it's indecipherable longhand, even to me. They might be better off giving me any of the well-written food and travel books published by local companies like Lonely Planet, Travelers' Tales, Ten Speed Press or Chronicle Books.

Are you ready for a Menopausal Tour? You qualify if you value air conditioning more than your first born, are finally your own best friend and are "power surges," not hot flashes! There are also rules to live by on a Menopausal Tour. They include no men, no kids, no whining, laughing a lot and having fun. If this speaks to you, then you should check out www.menopausaltraveltours.com, the Web site for Menopausal Tours.

The brainchild of Teresa DeLillo, Menopausal Tours LLC is a company specializing in escorted tours to worldwide destinations for women in their prime of life, or as Teresa says, "travel for women with a certain attitude." The business just seven months, she is getting all kinds of attention from the travel press and it's paying off. Her tours are filling up.

And why not? Certainly, one of the draws is company. Plus, as security always a concern when traveling, there's safety in numbers. Then, as Teresa explains, there's the style she proudly maintains in putting together her tour. She makes sure the destination is exciting and glamorous, the lodging unique, the dining topnotch and the activities entertaining and interesting.

Planned tours include "The Julep Tour," a seven-day swing through Savannah, Ga. and Charleston, S.C. in late March; the "Rust and Dust Tour," a July getaway to Seattle and the San Juan Islands; and the "Jazz, Cabarets and Beignets Tour," in mid-October. You can guess the last destination.

Teresa DeLillo publishes a newsletter appropriately titled "Hot Flash!!" Learn more, call her at 866-GOT-TO-GO. Funny, isn't it? Here's a phone number to attract women of a certain age who wish to travel, yet it sounds like the number of a health clinic for men of a certain age. Enough said.

It got in the mail. It's the 2001 Relais & Chateaux International Guide listing 452 independently owned hotels and restaurants in 47 countries. Members swear loyalty to the five "Cs" — courtesy, charm, character, cuisine and cash. It's worth a looksee. Try their Web site at www.relaischateaux.fr. We have stayed in some of their establishments. They were memorable visits. However, it's good to remember that all-important sixth C — cash.

Mike Cleary's column appears every other week in this newspaper. He and wife Mary Ann, co-host "The Food and Travel Enthusiasts" radio program 10 a.m. Sundays on KABL, 960 AM. Readers can e-mail Mike at mc960kabl.com.

VIEWPOINT

Too many regulations

By Lloyd Coyne

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District regulations are preventing existing power plants from operating to full capacity. Why?

Some older plants do not meet their restrictive air quality regulations. The California Air Quality Management District has removed these plants from the list. Why hasn't the BAAQMD?

Why can't California be satisfied with Federal air quality standards? Are the BAAQMD have to have more restrictive standards? Are the standards really giving us cleaner air?

With the news media would look into how the BAAQMD is robbing the needed power. Expose the BAAQMD for what it is doing to prevent power from reaching us.

The California Air Resources Board is equally responsible. Remember the forced gasoline manufacturers to put toxic chemicals in our gasoline. These toxic chemicals may have made the gasoline burn cleaner, but at what cost? Now our water supply is contaminated with cancer-causing chemicals.

Don't allow them to rob us of our power-generating capacity!

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Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

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IT'S TIME TO BE CREATIVE TO MEET OUR ENERGY NEEDS



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Resourcefulness might be better choice

As I understand it, a certain amount of money has already gone toward a proposed teen center at Cougar Field only to abandon the plan and shift attention to the Childcare Center at Memorial Park. This in turn would mean moving the childcare center to Ocean View Park on Buchanan, meaning yet another construction project would be started.

The Memorial Park neighborhood is happy with the Childcare Center as is: no late-hour noise or screams, no litter, no parking problems, no boom boxes. A teen center would surely put an end to that.

When the high school vacates the temporary premises it presently rents at the awesome revenue of \$1 to the city, and after the citizens of Albany have reclaimed their tennis courts — as surely they must — here would still be a comfortable area, perhaps next to the swimming pool, where without major disruption a teen center could very well function. This could mean no new elaborate, long and expensive construction for a city that barely makes it financially. Besides, who knows, a teen center might not turn out to be what's needed or wanted in the long run.

Resourcefulness should in these times be preferable to concrete.

M.A. Zavala
Albany

Communities taking action is often better

We are closing Mira Vista School. We cannot change all the schools at once, so we will do it one school at a time. If the voters pass the \$72 Maintenance and Recreation Assessment District tax, we will open the Kennedy Pool.

These are promises made by the West Contra Costa Unified School District over the last 10 years. However, residents, businesses and cities did not always agree with the district and took matters into their own hands.

The East Richmond Neighborhood Council, along with the Mira Vista School parents and staff, rallied behind their school and stopped its closure by asking questions, getting answers and creating solutions.

Point Richmond businesses adopted Washington School and, not willing to wait for the school district, they asked questions, found answers and created a model school.

The city of Richmond put a plug in Kennedy Pool and asked questions, got answers and reopened the pool under city jurisdiction.

Residents and city officials of Hercules have questions, want answers, and are willing to do what it takes to find the best solution to better the education of students in their city.

If the Mira Vista School community had done nothing, there would be houses where that school still stands. Had Point Richmond businesses looked the other way, how long would the students at Washington School have

had to wait for a quality education? Kennedy Pool would still be collecting leaves and stagnant water had the city of Richmond not stepped up to the plate.

On March 6, the citizens, businesses and city government of Hercules can be leaders by voting "yes" on Measure G and start asking questions, getting answers and creating solutions that will strengthen the education in the city of Hercules.

Kevin Rivard
Richmond

A bad stink

While sitting in my doctor's office for my regular checkup, after having an operation to open up my sinus, a very attractive woman walked in, sat beside me, and the air turned blue with the odor of her perfume or cologne.

The smell was so bad and strong that my sinuses immediately filled up, and I was in immense pain. I tried to move to the other side of the waiting room, but it was too late; the whole room was impregnated with the smell.

Have you ever gotten in an elevator with one of those scent-bathed beauties? How about just getting your meal at a restaurant and have one of these reeking odor babies sit down right next to you? I would rather sit behind a diesel engine, at a red light, than be confined with one of these power odor washers in a confined area — at least I can roll up the window and pull around it.

Why do people soak themselves with an odor that is so offensive to others? Is it because they didn't have time to bathe? Let me tell you, people, you make an impression on everyone with whom you come into contact.

Unfortunately, with my sinus problems, mine is a more lasting impression. Perhaps I should take an idea from Michael Jackson and wear a mask. Or I could just have one handy, and when I come in contact with one of these scented beauties, just pull it out and put it on.

In all new buildings today, we have fire sprinklers. Maybe it would be a good idea to have stink sprinklers installed everywhere. When one of these beauties stinks up the place, they would go off. Sure, you would get wet along with them, but at least you could breathe.

Perhaps, if the smell is of a natural variety, it could release a mist impregnated with soap. The solution would beef up the economy by causing people to buy and carry umbrellas. Any other suggestions to alleviate this problem would be appreciated.

Earl Cook
El Cerrito

Share your experiences

I am a high school English teacher in upstate New York. The area where we live is quite rural, yet lovely. The Oswego River flows through our small city into Lake Ontario, and consequently everyone's history is somehow connected to the "east" or "west" side of town. Many of my students have had limited ex-

periences traveling, reading, even conversing with someone who is not of a similar cultural upbringing. My freshman English class is designed to help them value literacy, the beauty of language, and the power of the written and spoken word.

I had them each write a reading/writing history, and, although some remember sitting on a grandparent's lap and being read a favorite story (that they already had memorized), or some remembered a familiar plastic milk crate that housed favorite story books, most have not experienced many special "literacy moments."

Can you help? I want to show my students in Oswego that there is a wonder-filled world about them. Travel is not the only vehicle that allows us to meet new people and visit new places. Is there a book that changed your life? Was there an experience you had that made you a reader? What are your favorite "reads," and how did these books shape you into the person who is reading my letter today?

Help me fill the literacy gap for some of my students, and help me nurture others to continue in their literacy evolution. Write to us. Share your stories. I intend to not just share them with my class, but with a college class of young people training to be teachers; these folks come to my class and team with a younger person on various literacy projects. Show all these learners the kind of support they can expect to receive from the community where they choose to teach.

Sharon Morley
Secondary English teacher
Oswego High School
2 Buccaneer Blvd.
Oswego, NY 13126

Monopoly conditions

In a way, it is so sad that so many intelligent people of good will could be bamboozled into creating such a profound screw-up as to deregulate the wholesale supply of a near monopoly and leave the retail side under strict controls.

With monopoly conditions, the sky is the limit, and price gouging is the norm. And so it is that crude oil and natural gas and electric wholesalers are wallowing in almost obscene profits. And the electric retailers are howling foul.

What should happen is that, as mentioned in a Times article on Jan. 10, the state should buy the electrical transmission system and the commodity exchange where electricity is bought and sold. The state should also buy back power stations sold under deregulation and build more plants as soon as possible — and operate that part of the wholesale market as a non-profit enterprise.

What will probably happen is that the state will bail out the retailers, and the consumers and taxpayers will end up footing the bill which, at the moment, seems to be about \$1000 per household and a 50 percent increase in rates.

As someone said, God help us all.

Charles T. Walton
Berkeley

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"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson, 1878

Convicted child molester arrested for probation violation

STAFF REPORT

EL CERRITO — A 37-year-old El Cerrito resident who was convicted of child molestation two years ago was arrested on Feb. 15 for violating the terms of his probation.

The arrest came after a woman called police, concerned about the man's behavior near children at a church where he was a member, according to a report.

Police searched his house last week after department detectives confirmed his prior conviction.

The suspect has since been released pending further investigation. Among possible incriminating evidence is pornography that turned up during the search.

"We're still looking at evidence," said El Cerrito detective Wayne Mann.

The suspect was convicted on child molestation in January, 1998. He was sentenced to 365 days in County Jail and placed on Felony Probation for five years.

After last week's complaint, however, the police department contacted the suspect's probation officer, which led to the 6 a.m. search.

A criminal complaint will be sought at the Contra Costa County district attorney's office and with the county's Adult Probation Depart-

POLICE REPORT

ment.

■ On Feb. 13 at 2:45 p.m., a 16-year-old boy was arrested for allegedly shoplifting \$33 worth of merchandise from the Target Store at 11450 San Pablo Avenue.

■ Between Feb. 10 and Feb. 12, a 1999 Volvo was allegedly stolen from the 2600 block of Tuller Avenue in El Cerrito. A window had been forced open to unlock the car door, according to a police report.

The owner, an 86-year-old man, told police a radio worth \$15 was taken from under the seat and that someone had rifled through the glove box.

In addition, \$200 worth of damage was done to the ignition.

■ The evening of Feb. 13, \$142 worth of property belonging to a 23-year-old woman was reportedly stolen from a Saturn parked on the 11400 block of San Pablo.

In another apparent auto burglary three days earlier, a 22-year-old man lost \$321 worth of property when his GMC was robbed on the 800 block of Galvin Drive.

There are no suspects for either incident.

■ A 68-year-old resident of a re-

tirement home on the 6500 block of Gladys Avenue told police she believes an employee there stole \$800 in cash from her bedroom between 10 p.m. on Feb. 9 and 5 a.m. on Feb. 10.

No arrest has been made.

■ A 15-year-old El Cerrito boy escaped an apparent strong-arm robbery with no injuries the afternoon of Feb. 14, according to a report.

The youth told police he was approached by two suspects, a 17 and 18-year-old male, one simulating a weapon in his waistband, while walking on the 5300 block of Crealy Avenue. One left while the other searched the victim's pockets, who also fled without taking anything.

El Cerrito chief of police Scott Kirkland found the car and detained the two suspects, but didn't find any weapons on them.

Both were identified by the youth — the juvenile was released from custody pending further investigation.

■ A wallet was returned to a teacher at Windrush School, on 1800 Elm Street, after she reported it stolen two weeks ago.

The victim, 39, told police the wallet was taken from her class when she had to walk out momentarily.

One of the students later returned

it to her, according to Mann.

■ A man and a woman, both 49, stopped a thief while he was in the midst of burglarizing their garage on the 5300 block of Barrett Avenue on Feb. 14, according to a report.

The couple told police that when they approached their garage at 7:30 a.m., a man was in the process of walking out with an armload of their property. When they confronted him, he dropped the items and fled.

Police did not locate the suspect.

■ A 22-year-old Alameda man is suspected of cashing a forged check at the El Cerrito Bank of the West the morning of Jan. 16.

Police believe he entered the bank around 10:30 a.m. and cashed in \$300 using a check belonging to Allied Automotive, a shop located at 920 Gilman Street in Berkeley.

No arrest has been made.

■ Witnesses nearly nabbed a man who allegedly fled a Albertson's Food & Drug store with 12 bottles of stolen alcohol concealed in a plastic bag, according to a report.

A store employee told police the middle-aged suspect was confronted by two witnesses outside the store at 10700 San Pablo Avenue, but managed to run off with the goods.

The alcohol was worth \$326.88.

El Cerrito Police looking for a few good... people

By J. R. Deaton

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — The Police Department is looking for a few good cadets.

Last month the City Council approved a new El Cerrito police cadet program for college students who might be interested in law enforcement.

"The police cadet program is intended to serve as an introduction to a career in law enforcement while assisting and enhancing the department in a wide variety of general duties that do not require the authority of a sworn law enforcement officer," Police Chief Scott Kirkland said to describe the new program.

Cadets, who will be paid \$9.50 to \$10 per hour after training, will assist the department with such work as providing general information to the public regarding department policies. They will also deal with the public, answering questions about police reports, arrests, towed vehicles, citations and other matters.

Kirkland said the cadets will be

used during major city-wide events such as the Fourth of July parade, school homecoming parade, and Martin Luther King Jr. parade celebration.

"We're trying to recruit people who reflect the demographics of West County," Kirkland said. "We are some talented young people there."

Cadet candidates must be at least 18 years old and enrolled in college. They must be carrying at least one semester unit or eight college credits and maintain at least a "C" grade. There is a two-year maximum time limit for the position, and they will work a maximum of 20 hours per week for the department. They want the person to be successful in college," Kirkland said.

In fiscal year 2000-2001, the program has been approved to fund the program for six months.

Cmdr. Dan Hurley of the ECPD coordinating the program and the department plans to have cadets at first and perhaps open to three later on. "I think it will be good for the department and the city," Hurley said.

Frogs, creeks and croaks workshop in Oakland

By Maryann Aberg

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

Ah, the beautiful croaking song that makes our evenings atmospheric. Attend the upcoming Watershed Assessment Workshop and learn more about frogs' homes.

The workshop, sponsored by the Water Assessment Resource Center, will address how urbanization affects watersheds. Presentations will feature a number of creek-daylighting projects, including the restoration of Oakland's Sausal Creek and Berkeley's Cordona Creek. A slide show by Lisa Viani, co-founder of Friends of Baxter Creek, will focus on restoration projects at Baxter Creek. The workshop is free and happens 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Feb. 24 at Sequoia Lodge, 2666 Mountain Blvd., Oakland.

To reserve a spot, call Laurel Marcus & Associates, 510-832-3101, or e-mail to laurelm@ix.netcom.com. Space is limited.

Frog-calling survey

Attend a training meeting for the annual frog survey sponsored by Friends of Five Creeks and Friends of Baxter Creek. To learn how to recognize local frogs by their calls, meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 5, at the Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave. in Albany.

Because of the apparent worldwide decline in amphibian populations, volunteer frog-calling surveys have been undertaken for more than a decade in this country and Canada. Information from the survey will be contributed to Frogwatch USA, a federally sponsored study with the following goals:

- Learning about frogs and declining amphibian populations;
- Preserving valuable frog habitats;
- Correcting environmental problems and reintroducing frogs to suitable habitats;

■ Increasing appreciation of creeks, ponds, wildlife, and watersheds.

Here's some ideas on how to survey:

■ During daylight hours, visit a spot near a branch of Baxter Creek in Booker T. Anderson, Canyon Trail, Mira Vista, Pointsett Park, or the area south of Albersson's. Get to know the area well so you can find a likely spot to hear frogs when you return at dusk.

■ Go there with a partner on at least three different nights in March and April from about a half hour before sunset through two and a half hours after sunset. If possible, choose an overcast, cloudy, or drizzly night with calm winds, after rain, or when humidity is high.

■ Turn off your flashlights and wait quietly for one minute.

■ Listen quietly for frog calls for three minutes. If loud noise interrupts, start over.

■ Record by species the largest number of calls you hear on the frog-calling survey form available from Friends of Five Creeks at f5creeks@aol.com.

■ Visit the same spot on at least three different nights, filling out a separate form for each night. Fill out and return the forms even if you don't hear any frogs.

■ Return the forms to Friends of Five Creeks, c/o Susan Schwartz, 1236 Oxford St., Berkeley, CA 94709, by fax to 510-237-7968, or as an e-mail attachment to f5creeks@aol.com.

■ If possible, survey again in May and June to determine whether any bullfrogs live in your area.

The form lists various types of frogs you might encounter, including the Pacific chorus (tree) frog, endangered red-legged frog, western toad, and bullfrog.

Maryann Aberg is the co-founder of Friends of Baxter Creek.

Utility undergrounding runs into trouble

Plans to underground utility lines along Fairmount Avenue as part of the Plaza reconstruction project have hit a snag.

Because of Pacific Gas and Electric's financial woes, the company said its plans to relocate the lines along Fairmount would be delayed through the summer and possibly beyond.

Jill Keimach, community development manager, said that in a meeting last week, the Plaza project management team and city staff "investigated the possibility of the developer advancing the \$450,000 to complete the undergrounding of all utilities along Fairmount Avenue in a timely manner."

Keimach said the developer, Regency Realty, "had some legitimate concerns that if they paid for the undergrounding up front they may not be reimbursed by PG&E."

"Because of the extremely tight construction schedule that Regency Realty has for the Plaza and the need to have the conflicting utility poles removed, PG&E is now planning to temporarily reroute the overhead service along Fairmount Avenue at the construction site only," Keimach reported.

The estimated cost for this new reroute plan is \$85,000 to \$100,000 and will be paid for by Regency Realty. "While not an ideal solution, this will allow the Plaza to proceed with its April 23 start-of-construction date," Keimach noted. "Staff will continue to lobby PG&E for a definitive timetable on the permanent underground relocation work," she added.

Bet on education at ECHS Casino Night, April 6

"Gambling" at blackjack, craps and roulette will be the main feature of the 8th annual Casino Night fundraiser to be presented by the Friends of El Cerrito High School from 7 to 11 p.m. on Friday, April 6 at the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007

Moers Lane, El Cerrito.

Members of the community are encouraged to show their support by attending this fun-filled evening. Tickets (\$25 each and \$40 for two) include hors d'oeuvres, desserts and script for use at the tables.

Throughout the evening additional script will be sold, prizes will be awarded, a DJ will provide music, and a no-host beer and wine bar will be open.

The tables are run by professionals, and instruction is provided for non-gamblers, so everyone is welcome.

Needed are community sponsors, businesses and individuals to underwrite the cost of equipment rental and prizes such as gift certificates and merchandise.

Gaming table sponsorships are \$200 each.

To sponsor a table, purchase tickets, or donate prizes, call chairperson Janet McKnight at 510-525-3272. Advance ticket reservations are advised for Casino Night, ECHS's only all-school fund-raiser.

Proceed will go towards an electronic message board in front of the school and scholarships to deserving graduating seniors.

Middle School Night

All parents and students are welcome at Albany High School's Middle School Night, an informational evening for 2001-02 9th-graders.

The event will be held 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28, 1259 Brighton Ave., in the middle school gym.

March 1 designated Peace Corps Day

This week the City Council proclaimed March 1, 2001, to be Peace Corps Day in El Cerrito in honor of the organization's 40th anniversary.

The proclamation notes that more than 162,000 Americans have served as Peace Corps volunteers in more than 130 countries since it was founded in 1961.

Nearly 24,000 Peace Corps volunteers have come from California, with 15,400 from Northern California alone.

"It is indeed fitting to recognize the achievements of the Peace Corps and honor its volunteers, past and present, and reaffirm our nation's commitment to helping people help themselves throughout the world," the city proclamation states.

"Peace Corps volunteers have made significant and lasting contributions around the world in agri-

culture, business, development, education, the environment, health and youth development."

Supervisor stands up for libraries

CONCORD — Contra Costa County Supervisor Mark DeSaulnier announced a proposal last week that could provide \$6.4 million to turn around what he called the "pathetic condition" of the county's public libraries.

DeSaulnier's plan is to allocate half of the money the county receives from the Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund for library improvement. If approved, the plan would generate some \$1.5 million for Contra Costa libraries.

Council commends police officer Stephen Bonini

This week the City Council honored Police Officer Stephen Bonini of the El Cerrito Police Department with a city of El Cerrito commendation.

Bonini, who started out as a police recruit with the department in 1997, is praised and congratulated for being honored this week by the Richmond Elks organization.

"Officer Stephen Bonini possesses and demonstrates the character qualities of reliability, thoroughness and an extremely positive attitude," the commendation states. "He is a worthy role model who has developed excellent relationships with his peers and the public, earning him well-deserved respect."

The commendation notes that Bonini "maintains an aggressive stance against driving under the influence," and that last year he earned a "10851 award" from the California Highway Patrol for stolen vehicle recovery.

Bonini was honored by the Richmond Elks Lodge No. 1251 on Wednesday evening as part of the lodge's law enforcement night program and dinner.

Perhaps the best tribute to Bonini, however, came from Cmdr. Mosby of

the ECPD.

When informing the Department about Bonini's selection by the Mosby displayed a Lincolnshire for words:

"There can be no doubt that the unwelcome few who would sow their seeds of evil in our fair town, they shall be rejected by their craving to do harm by Bonini and those like him, who descend upon their evilness and them away as weeds from a garden."

Police department hires two new recruits

The Police Department has two police recruits. On Jan. 22, William K. Zink and Ryan Carcione started their employment the city as police recruits. After a week of orientation in the department and are currently attending police academy prior to begin their duties in El Cerrito.

Zink was born in Oregon and was raised in Montana, and graduated from Bozeman High School in the early 1980s. He enlisted in the United States Coast Guard and currently the non-commissioned in charge of the Carquinez Guard Station. Zink, his wife and their six children, live in Walnut Creek.

Carcione was born and raised in San Jose and graduated from High School in 1991.

After attending junior college, transferred to UC-Berkeley, where he earned a bachelor's degree in psychology as a hammer thrower track team there.

Before joining the ECPD, Carcione's employment included working for the worker's compensation bureau and as a seasonal recruiter for a recruitment company in San Francisco.

He was married last September and he and his wife live in El Cerrito.

"We welcome William and Ryan to our city and department," Police Chief Scott Kirkland said of the new recruits.

Albany

FROM PAGE A2

■ On the morning of Feb. 19, a resident on the 1500 block of Solano Avenue reported that thieves had stolen her black '92 Honda Civic while it was parked in the driveway. There were no witnesses.

■ On the morning of Feb. 19, a business on the 800 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that thieves had broken into the store and stolen the cash register. There were no witnesses.

■ On the morning of Feb. 19, a business on the 1000 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that over the weekend, vandals had damaged the tires of the business vehicle. There were no witnesses.

■ During the week of Feb. 12, Albany officers towed nine vehicles,

responded to 14 false alarms, attended to six lost or deceased animals, and assisted three people who were locked out of their house or car.

■ In the domestic arena, officers responded to 20 civil disturbances and 86 civil assists. Officers stopped 60 cars and/or pedestrians, issuing 30 citations and 30 warnings. Albany firefighter/paramedics responded to two fire calls and 12 medical emergencies.

Youths caught in the act

A couple of Albany youths were arrested at 2:30 a.m. Feb. 16 for allegedly breaking into the Community Conservation Center at 669 Gilman St. and stealing a bike, scooter, radio, backpack, umbrella, and a bottle of spiced rum, said police.

The suspects climbed over a fence and smashed a window to get into the cashier's office, according to a report. While the two were making off with the items, they didn't realize they had set off a silent alarm and were confronted by an officer mid-heist.

Both were released to their parents.

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"A few years ago you had to buy an ANTIQUE oriental rug if you wanted good, rich color. Today, there are NEW rugs that are woven with natural dyes and they are gorgeous. We have many of these beautiful NEW rugs in our showroom now."

This Week at Emmett Eiland's... You should see the wonderful collection of Tibetan rugs at Emmett Eiland's that were designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. It's amazing how effective his designs when incorporated into oriental rugs. All are in light colors: shades of ivory, olive and buff. Come in soon and take a look.

A quick way to familiarize yourself with oriental rugs and visit our showroom is to go to www.InternetRugs.com. Color photos of a third of our inventory - one thousand rugs - are on line at all times, along with good information about rugs. By the way, we repair rugs, wash them by hand, and cut pads to order.

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Please recycle this paper.

New stamp honoring Vietnam Wall — points to Berkeley's Darden

On Jan. 12, the U.S. Postal Service issued a new commemorative stamp honoring the 58,000 men and women whose names are on one of America's most beloved monuments: the Vietnam Wall. Better known as "The Wall That Heals," the stamp depicts a Vietnam veteran kneeling in front of The Wall, with his right hand reaching up and touching it. Directly above his hand is the name of one of the young men who gave his life in the war: Otis J. Darden. The name is illuminated by a ray of light beam- ing from above.

This is a story that really hits home, because Otis Darden grew up in Berkeley. But he was the kind of young man any city would be proud of. A graduate of Berkeley High (class of '66), Otis was outgoing and friendly, and he always had a kind word for everyone. His classmates especially remember how he'd go out of his way to look out for younger kids and protect them from bullies. Like his older brother, Charles, he had a special aptitude for music. At Berkeley High, he sang with The Harmonizers.



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

drafted into the Army and sent to Vietnam, where he was awarded the Silver Star and the Purple Heart for his gallantry. On Feb. 3, 1969, he was killed by enemy gunfire. By cruel coincidence, it was his 21st birthday.

Otis Darden would have celebrated his 53rd birthday this month if he had lived. He would have fallen in love, gotten married, had kids and grandkids, and made a positive and lasting contribution to our community. But he never got the chance. And for those who knew him, the pain never goes away. His sister, Charlene Darden Baker, a senior administrative assistant at UC-Berkeley's Boalt Law School, still misses those late-night Monopoly games they used to play until 3 or 4 in the morning. His classmate, Gwen Hilliard, still misses those wonderful conversations and his radiant smile.

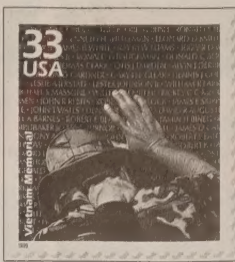
But they had no idea his name would be on a postage stamp until a few weeks ago, when Otis' brother Linnie, who now lives in Hinesville, Ga., walked into his local post office to mail a letter and noticed a large poster announcing the sale of a new series of stamps called "Celebrate The Century."

The poster featured a blow-up of the Vietnam Wall stamp. "I couldn't believe my eyes," he says. "I thought, 'Could that really be my brother's name up there?'"

It was, but Carl Hermann, the artist who designed the stamp, says it was pure chance.

"We contacted him," says Linnie, "and he said he chose that part of The Wall to appear on the stamp by random choice." But Otis' family isn't so sure it was just happenstance. "He's revisiting us, I'm convinced of it," says his sister Charlene. "He doesn't want us to forget the war, and he doesn't want us to forget him."

And they want the world to know about it. That's how, in a roundabout way, this story came to me. Remember that I said Otis had another brother named Charles, who shared his love of music? When Otis was killed, the U.S.



THIS EARLY proof for the Vietnam memorial stamp shows a hand resting on the man's shoulder to comfort him, which was later removed from the design. Otis Darden's name is three lines above the man's hand resting on the memorial.

government gave each of his brothers and sisters \$1,000 — their share of the insurance money.

Charles used his \$1,000 to found the Berkeley Free Orchestra, which grew into what is now the Berkeley Symphony. Today, he is a well known pianist and conductor

who splits his time between New York City and St. Barthelmy in the French West Indies.

And that's where Stephen and Claudine Zuber met him when they were vacationing in St. Bart's a few weeks ago. They went to the local church for Sunday services, and he was the church organist. Since Claudine is also a keyboard artist, they started talking. And when he found out they were from Berkeley, he told them about the stamp and asked, "Do you know anyone who can get this story into the local paper?"

As it happens, they do. Dr. Stephen Zuber is my orthopedist. They called me as soon as they got back, and you know the rest.

By the way, the names of Otis Darden and the 21 other Berkeleyans who gave their lives in that terrible war are inscribed on a bronze plaque that was placed in front of the city's Veterans' Memorial Building in 1995.

Their names are Paul Bowman, Donald Brown, Phillip Callan, Kenneth Cameron, Erskine Crump, Thomas Duggan, Donald Gasser, Allen Harano, Michael Hare, Frederick Henderson, Daryl Liggins,

Gary Mabrey, Charles Mullan, Brandt Neubacher, Rex Parsons, Winfield Sisson, Esmond Snell, John Waller, James West, Shojiro Yamashita and Zoltan Kovacs. All honor to their memories.

If you'd like to know more about any of these young men, Country Joe McDonald, who was instrumental in creating the memorial plaque, has also created Web sites for each one where family, friends and others can post their memories and reflections. Otis' site (www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/vvm/darden.html) is particularly moving, but they're all touching. (To access any of the others, just substitute their last name for "darden" in the above URL.) As for Country Joe, he's going to play an all-too-rare local concert March 9 and 10 at Berkeley's Live Oak Theater. He'll sing songs by Woody Guthrie (as well as his own compositions) and read selections from his father's book, "An Old Guy Who Feels Good."

Phone Martin Snapp at (510) 273-9039, email him at catman@california.com, or write him c/o Hills Newspapers, 1969 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA 94611.

Chamber

FROM PAGE A3

with grade to test preparation material for SAT 9 examinations for grades 2 to 8 as well as test prep books for all ages.

The number and variety of merchandise for students at Star Supp is almost limitless. Starting with small items like pencils, the list of available items includes such things as maps, posters, flash cards, bulletin board sets, bulletin board paper, pocket charts, educational games, educational computer software — and even room decorations.

"If we haven't got what the customer wants," says Tai, "we'll find it for them."

Tai adds that he encourages questions from parents. "I am more than happy," he explains, "to recommend exactly the educational products to meet parent's needs."

Star Education Supply, "the store that teachers just love," will be open seven days a week. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday; 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday; and noon to 4:30 p.m. Sunday.

Members reinvest
In the past two weeks another 100 individuals, firms and organizations showed their support for the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce by reinvesting in the organization another year.

These early Chamber backers include: StarServe Medical, The Guitar Center, Norgie Cleaners, Neal Wells & Black, Brown, Lanier and Company, Good Stuff Thrift Shop, Tax Service, Contra Costa Healthcare, Bank Of The West, Hays Company.

Deliver Plumbing, Collins Prop-

erty Management, Cerrito City Club, Mira Vista Tire and Brake, Words Into Print, East Bay Municipal Utility District, The Mechanics Bank, Fatapples, Hacienda Restaurant.

More Car Company, Seidell Enterprises, Marvin Collins Construction, Nomura School, Inc., Bill Kerber, Universal Building Services, West Contra Costa Waste Management, Ann and Frank Hardina, El Cerrito Medical Group, R.H. Anderson, and Superior Plumbing and Heating.

In announcing these latest reinvestments, Chamber manager Sewall Glinertnick urged all members who have not yet paid their dues for 2001 to do so as soon as possible.

*Luncheon Deadline today

Members and guests have until the close of business today to make reservations for a unique "Roundtable Discussion" which will highlight the first El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce monthly business luncheon of the year next Tuesday.

Set for noon at the Mira Vista Golf and Country Club, the session has been called by newly installed President Marge Collins to allow members to bring up for discussion any matter they feel should be of interest to the Chamber and the business community.

Reservations are required, and may be made by telephoning the Chamber office at (510) 233-7040.

Big crowd for races

The El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce's March 7 "Day At The Races" is drawing heavy response it was reported this week, with some 50 members and guests already ticketed for this at Golden Gate Fields.

Participants who have paid \$37 per person to attend, will get valid

parking, admission to the Turf Club and sit down luncheon in the track's VIP Directors Room.

Those still wishing to attend this event have until next Wednesday, Feb. 28, to make reservations by telephoning the Chamber Office at (510) 233-7040.

Roundtable reservations open

Reservations are now being taken for a special "Retailers Roundtable" to be conducted here on March 21 and 22 under the co-sponsorship of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce.

The two day program, to be held at the Mira Vista Golf and Country Club, will feature nationally known business consultant and speaker Kent Burnes.

On Wednesday, March 21, from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Burnes will share his first hand knowledge and business experience in a talk giving his views on "Building A Better Retail Business."

The next day, from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Burnes will deal with topics crucial to retailers in two hour roundtable discussions concerning customer service, E-Commerce, visual merchandising and inventory control. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers.

The cost for those making reservations in advance is \$25 for Chamber members and \$30 for

others. Tickets at the door will be \$40. This one price covers sessions on both days, with the choice of attending one or all of the presentations. It also includes an evening sandwich buffet on Wednesday.

With the theme "Small Business Is Big Business In Contra Costa County," the program in El Cerrito is being co-sponsored by the Contra Costa Small Business Development Center.

Co-hosting this event will be the Chambers of Commerce of Crockett, Hercules, El Sobrante, Pinole, San Pablo, Rodeo and Richmond as well as the cities of El Cerrito and San Pablo.

To register for this event call the El Cerrito Chamber at (510) 233-7040 or the Contra Costa Small Business Development Center at (925) 646-5377.

*Sale deadline next week

Local retailers will have until the close of business next Thursday, March 1, to sign up to participate in this year's spring's City Wide Round-Up Sale Days on March 22 through March 25.

This business promotion is sponsored twice yearly by the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce, and is publicized throughout the area by means of a special sale tabloid supplement distributed in copies of Family Fair, The Journal and the Berkeley Voice — allowing

advertisers to reach some 43,000 readers.

Under a special arrangement local businesses can let customers know what values they're offering at a discount advertising rate, a portion of each dollar spent in the sale supplement will be rebated to the Chamber to help finance its promotion efforts throughout the year.

Those wishing to participate in this promotion may arrange the year.

Those wishing to participate in this promotion arrange to do so by telephoning John Crain at (510) 262-2753.

Local volunteers sought

Armstrong University in Oakland, an Associate Member of the

El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce, is seeking members of the business association interested in becoming members of the school's Education Advisory Committee.

The major function of this committee is to advise the University on how to improve its curriculum and better serve its community and international student body.

Those members of the business community who would like to be recommended for membership on this committee are asked to contact the Chamber Office at (510) 233-7040.

Armstrong University, located at 1608 Webster St. in Oakland, serves a diverse international student body and offers Bachelor of Business Administration and Masters of Business Administration degrees.

Please recycle this newspaper

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Save money. Conserve energy. And stay warm.

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"RESIDENTIAL DRAINAGE TECHNIQUES" February 24th 9:30-11:30 AM
Choosing the right products for a drainage project is critical to achieving maximum performance. Greg Casorso, a contractor who specializes in drainage system installations, will review products as well as installation methods at this informative seminar.

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Pemko Rigid Gasket Weatherstrip
• Seals door snug against jamb
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MD Expanding Foam Sealant
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A great solution to drafty old double hung windows
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Washington Post Columnist
E.J. Dionne

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Wednesday, March 7, 2001 @ 4:10 p.m.
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SAVE \$40 PR.
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Save \$300 PR.

Klipsch: 3-Way Floor Standing Speakers with Dual 10" Drivers KLF10BLACK

349⁹⁷
Save \$400 PR.

Boston 6-Piece Home Theater System with Powered Subwoofer MICR0800BLACK

399⁹⁹
Save \$400 SYSTEM

Mini Systems



aiwa Mini System with 3 Disc CD Changer

100 watts of total output power make this 3-disc advanced CD changer system the one to have. Includes a 3-position electronic graphic equalizer and full-function remote. NSXAJ20

SAVE \$20
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Clearance Items - Availability Varies by Location

Panasonic 260-Watt, 5-Disc Home Theater Mini System SCAK58

249⁹⁷
Save \$80

aiwa 340-Watt Dolby Digital Surround Sound Mini System NSXHMA86

329⁹⁷
Save \$70

Pioneer 110-Watt High Style Executive System with CD Player NS77

449⁹⁷
Save \$150

Portable Audio



SONY Walkman MiniDisc Recorder with PC Link

Stores and plays music downloaded from the Net or tracks you've ripped from CDs. PC link delivers superior audio, plus it has a USB cable for plug & play interface. MZR37SPPC

SAVE \$10
169⁹⁹

Clearance Items - Availability Varies by Location

SONY SCIENCE Ultra Small Portable MP3 Player with 64MB Memory and FM Tuner MP2200

149⁰⁰
Save \$130

SONY Walkman Pocket Size MD Walkman Recorder with LCD Screen and Remote MZR70SILVER

199⁹⁷
Save \$30

SONY Walkman Palm Size 64MB Memory Stick Walkman with USB Transfer Cable NWMS7

249⁹⁷
Save \$150

CD Players



KENWOOD 5-Disc CD Changer with Remote

5 disc capacity allows you to listen to lots of your favorite tunes without the hassle of changing discs! With digital to analog conversion and noise shaping. Includes a full-function 10-key remote for your added convenience. CD404

SAVE \$20
99⁹⁹

Clearance Items - Availability Varies by Location

YAMAHA 5-Disc CD Changer with Remote Control CDC575

129⁹⁷
Save \$70

DENON Single CD with 8x Oversampling and Remote Control DCD425

149⁹⁷
Save \$60

DENON 5-Disc CD Changer with Alpha Processing and Remote Control DCM460

199⁹⁷
Save \$250

CD Recorders



Pioneer High Performance Single CD Recorder

It's the only recorder on the market that lets you adjust the left and right volume separately when recording in analog - Great when you want to save your old albums to CD. Includes no-hassle operating features such as one-button record track/disc and auto finalization. PDR609

SAVE \$60
289⁹⁹

Clearance Items - Availability Varies by Location

SONY Home MD Recorder/Player with Portable Player Unit MDBUNLDE6

199⁹⁷
Save \$100

PHILIPS Single CD Recorder with Digital Input and Output CDR770

249⁹⁷
After \$20 With-In Rebate
Total Savings \$150

Pioneer 3-Disc CD Changer to 2x Speed Single CD Recorder PDRW839

399⁹⁹
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KENWOOD Car CD and Cassette Combo

Starting a system? Cassette or CDs? Why choose? This package has it all. Features a cassette receiver, 40 watts x 4 channel power, the versatility of a cassette changer, and detachable face security. SYSTEM

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SONY CD Receiver with Black-Out Face with 50 Watts x 4 Channel Power and remote CDXM600

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KENWOOD 6" Dual Cone Speakers

Listen up! These speakers handle 130 watts. Water resistant design woofers. KFC1656

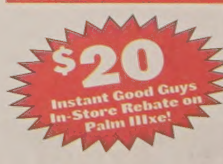
Clearance Items - Availability Varies by Location

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ALPINE Ultra Compact Amplifier with 40 Watts x 2 or 120 Watts x 1 Channel Power MRPT406

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The Palm IIIx combines flexibility and power in use, pocket-sized solution. Access and store important info. - calendar, e-mail, & address book. Features 8 MB of storage. PALMIIIx

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CLEARANCE MERCHANDISE: Includes open box, discontinued or one-of-a-kind models. Limited to stock on hand. Many products are priced below our original dealer cost. Selection varies by location, but all stores have a vast assortment of clearance merchandise. All demos and open-box models include manufacturer's warranty. Delivery of clearance merchandise is available for an extra charge. Due to special circumstances, some items may be limited to stock on hand or limited to one per family at the discretion of the Manager.

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and Clearance!

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Yamaha DVD Player
With Twin Laser Pickup

Original \$399.99
SAVE \$100!

299⁹⁹

This player provides high quality playback of DVD Video, audio CD, and conventional audio CD. It passes Dolby Digital and DTS signals for decoding by an amplifier, receiver or dedicated processor. DVDS796

Clearance Items - Availability Varies by Location

SHARP DVD Player with Cinema Quality Sound
Digital Super Picture DV750U

99⁹⁹
Save \$250

SHARP DVD 5-Disc Changer with Dolby Digital®
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199⁹⁹
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SHARP DVD Player with Dolby Digital and DTS
Decoders and Twin-Wave Laser DV626D

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Save \$150

Film Cameras



Samsung Maxima 140SQD
Impact Camera with 140mm Zoom Lens

Original \$199.99
SAVE \$50!

149⁹⁹

Features continuous shooting, portrait zoom, and escape mode. Equipped with 4x zoom, auto focus, and automatic flash with red-eye reduction. MAXIMA140SQD

Clearance Items - Availability Varies by Location

SAMSUNG Camera with Drop-In Film Loading and
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Save \$10

SAMSUNG Focus APS Camera with One-Touch Auto
Loading and Print Format Selection

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SAMSUNG Camera with 2.6x Zoom Lens, Red Eye
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Clearance Items - Availability Varies by Location

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Save \$20

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Color LCD Screen and 2x Optical Zoom

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Sony Digital Camera with 3.7x Digital Zoom and
Records of Video Capture FINEPIX 4700

649⁹⁹
Save \$150

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Panasonic 27" PanaBlack TV

Original \$349.99
SAVE \$50!

299⁹⁹

This premium 27" TV has the PanaBlack Picture Tube and 2-line digital comb filter for a rich, high contrast picture that minimizes glare and maximizes color. Also features 5 watts/channel audio output, universal remote and Easicon menu system. CT27D10

Clearance Items - Availability Varies by Location

RCA 27" Colortrak XS® Stereo TV with Auto Color
Control and Multi-Language On-Screen Display

199⁹⁷
Save \$50

MAGNAVOX 27" Stereo Color TV with P-I-P, 3-Line Comb
Filter and SmartSurf™ TP2797B

249⁹⁷
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Digital TVs



PROSCAN 32" HD Capable* TV

Original \$1799.99
SAVE \$500!

1299⁹⁹

Features picture-in-picture and a 3-line digital comb filter for excellent clarity. You can select VGA, SVGA, or DTV scanning. Also has S-video and component video inputs, plus VGA and USB inputs for PCs. Includes backlit universal remote control. CLOSEOUT! LIMITED TO STOCK ON HAND.

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PROSCAN 36" HD Capable* TV
with Guide Plus+ and 2 Tuner P-I-P

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LOEWE 32" Digital TV with Progressive Scanning
and Video Noise Reduction ARC332PB

1699⁹⁵
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Camcorders



SHARP digital Viewcam
with 10x Optical/100x Digital Zoom and 3" Color LCD Screen

Original \$599.99
SAVE \$100!

599⁹⁹

Features 10x optical/100x digital zoom and 3" color LCD view screen. There's a playback zoom function that allows you to zoom in on subjects while watching the video. VLS20U

Clearance Items - Availability Varies by Location

SHARP 8mm Viewcam Camcorder with
3" LCD Screen and 16x Optical Zoom VLA10U

299⁹⁷
Save \$30

SONY digital 8mm Handycam® Camcorder with new
LP Recording Mode and 1/4" CCD Screen DCRTRV320

699⁹⁷
Save \$200

Panasonic digital Digital Camcorder with 3" Diagonal Color LCD
Monitor with 300x Digital Zoom PVDV400

799⁹⁹
After Rebate
Save \$200



JVC 36" D-Series Stereo Color TV
with Component Input

Original \$999.99
SAVE \$200!

799⁹⁹

The hyper-scan high speed changer flies through 5 channels per second. 800 lines of resolution with a 2-line digital comb filter, dark tinted picture tube, MTS stereo with dbx and SAP. 2 AV inputs rear, 1 AV input front and dual S-video inputs. Comes with Universal Remote. AV36D201

Clearance Items - Availability Varies by Location

SHARP 36" MTS Stereo TV with P-I-P, S-Video Inputs
and Universal Remote 36NS400

599⁹⁷
Save \$200

SONY 35" Stereo Trinitron TV with Digital Comb
Filter and Universal Remote KV35S42

799⁹⁷
Save \$200

Projection TVs



SONY 61" Projection Television

Original \$1999.99
SAVE \$200!

1999⁹⁹

Sony's TV puts you in the action with 3-line digital comb filter and 34 watts of audio power. 2 tuner picture-in-picture lets you keep tabs on several programs, while with one touch of a button, the fully automatic digital convergence system realigns the picture tubes in just 15 seconds. KP61S75

Clearance Items - Availability Varies by Location

MITSUBISHI HDTV Receiver for Receiving both Digital and
Analog Broadcast Television Signals HD1080

299⁹⁷
Save \$700

PROSCAN 52" Digital High Definition Ready* Projection
TV with Digital Comb Filter and 2-Tuner P-I-P

1599⁹⁷
Save \$500

VCRs



SONY VHS Hi-Fi Stereo VCR
with VCR Plus+ Gold

Original \$199.99
SAVE \$50!

149⁹⁹

You'll never struggle to tape your favorite shows with VCR Plus+ timer recordings and VCR Plus+ Gold auto channel mapping, plus Favorite Channel List with station ID. Commercial Pass™ lets you skip annoying ads. SLVN80

Clearance Items - Availability Varies by Location

RCA 4-Head Hi-Fi Stereo VCR with Alpha-Numeric
Clock/Function Display VR623HF

79⁹⁹
Save \$20

PHILIPS Super VHS 4-Head Hi-Fi Stereo with VCR Plus+
and ShowGuard™ for Backup Memory VR960BPH

139⁹⁹
Save \$60

TOSHIBA Super VHS 4-Head Hi-Fi Stereo VCR with Flying
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189⁹⁹
Save \$40

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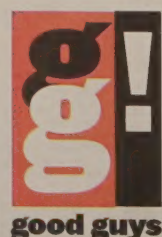
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SENIOR *Living* OR

A Healthy Senior Diet Doesn't Need To Be Bland

By Daniel Aspell

Those old jokes about the bland diet once recommended for seniors can pretty much be forgotten. Sure, taking out large amounts of fat and sodium may lessen the flavor, but these days there is a lot more on the menu than oatmeal and rye toast. While our diets need to be modified as we age to maintain optimum health, there are more than enough ways to still make meals satisfying and savory.

As we age, our taste buds lose the sensitivity they once had, making many older diners reach for the salt shaker or open bottles and jars of salt-rich condiments. Since the majority of processed foods and even many beverages contain added sodium, the average person consumes too much on a daily basis already.

High levels of sodium are known to cause high blood pressure. It can also cause fluid retention and imbalances in hydration. To cut back on the amount of salt ingested in a day, check food labels. Choose low- or no-sodium brands when you buy processed foods, and choose fresh produce and meats over canned whenever possible. Also, beware of "hidden sodium" in sweet things like diet soft drinks.

To make up for loss of seasoning when you cut back on salt, there are a number of tasty substitutes. Garlic is a

great alternative, and will actually help lower your blood pressure. Use whole fresh garlic for the fullest flavor, or garlic powder for a more delicate seasoning. Pepper will boost the flavor of meat dishes, but don't just stick with the tried-and-true mixture of ground black and white. Green and pink peppercorns have different and somewhat subtler flavors than their counterparts, and are fun to experiment with.

Fresh lemon and vinegar will also add the tang that's lacking when salt is absent. These also are products that are good for the body. Curry, powdered mustard, horseradish and allspice will add such zip to a dish that the salt shaker may end up in the cabinet.

By now, most seniors, especially women, know of the importance of calcium in the diet. Of all the minerals in our bodies, calcium rates the highest percentage and the body uses it in many ways. For seniors, it is necessary to combat osteoporosis and periodontal disease.

The FDA recommends up to 1,500 milligrams a day of calcium for senior women, but most probably aren't counting. Calcium supplements are readily available, but it's a lot more fun, and less expensive, to modify one's diet to get the necessary daily value.

Naturally, dairy products are the leading source of calcium. But as

eight ounces of milk supply 300 milligrams, that's a lot to drink in one day, and impossible for those who are lactose intolerant. Cheese, ice cream and buttermilk pack plenty of calcium, but plenty of grams of unhealthy fat as well.

The good news is that many low-fat, delicious foods are loaded with calcium. For example, a meal of salmon patties with a side dish of stir-fried tofu with broccoli will provide about half of your needed daily calcium. Follow that with a cup of low-fat yogurt for dessert and you've just about reached the daily value in one meal.

Most leafy green vegetables, like mustard and turnip greens, carry a good calcium supply. So does seafood like shrimp, oysters, sardines and the aforementioned salmon.

Seniors also need to keep up with the recommended daily value of magnesium, potassium and iron. Rather than costly supplements, a diet that follows the USDA food pyramid will provide enough of these essential minerals. Dark and leafy veggies will provide plenty of all three, and nuts will add extra magnesium. Bypass the traditional iceberg lettuce salad and toss some fresh spinach with a light dressing and walnuts, pine nuts or almonds for bigger flavor and better nutrition.

Carol Dunker makes living at the Altenheim a joy to residence

Carol has been working in Assisted Living for five years. Her position at The Altenheim is counseling families and making the right decisions for the prospective resident.

"When I meet with people" said Carol, "I always put myself in the family members' place. I can relate to them because I have been there."

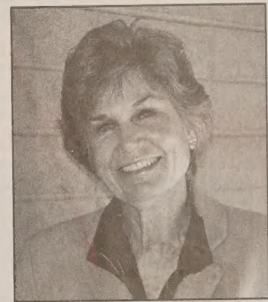
It is easy for me to sell the Altenheim because it is someplace where I know my own mother would be happy. She would love the sunny rooms looking out at the beautiful gardens—especially when the roses are blooming.

This would be my mother's home—where I would know she was safe and cared for. She would enjoy many of the other wonderful residents that live here. She would always have someone to play bridge with or to share a funny movie or football game with.

My job is to help people. It makes me feel good to have a new resident move in to The Altenheim and know that their family will be able to stop worrying about whether Mom or Dad or Aunt Susie is getting three nourishing and appetizing meals a day. They can feel confident that if she needs assistance with bathing or dressing or getting to her meals there will be a caring person to assist her. They can stop worrying whether or not she is taking the right medication at the right time. Most of all, if he or she does have a problem, there will be someone to handle any emergency.

The Altenheim provides all levels of assistance with the goal of preserving the choice, dignity and independence of every resident.

The Altenheim is located at 1720 Mac



Carol Dunker Counselor,
The Altenheim



Angel Home Care

PERSONNEL

- Home Health Aides
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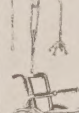
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SENIOR Living

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Making The Most Of The Time With The Grandkids

By Daniel Aspell

The age difference sometimes seems daunting, as decades of life and history separate you. You contain a vast wealth of experience and practical knowledge, while they are almost like empty vessels. But opposites attract, and no one has yet really explained the magic that occurs between a grandparent and their grandchildren.

Aside from all of the hours you spend with them on your lap, however, there is a lot of time to be filled with the little ones. Some grandparents may be up to games of hopscotch and catch the football, but for those that prefer lower-key activities, here are some tips on pastimes that create strong bonds while providing a great time.

When the grandchildren visit your home:

Before the youngsters invade your domicile, it's wise to run through a quick, child-proofing safety check. Make sure that all medications are safely out of reach, as well as cleaning agents and other common household items that are toxic or flammable. Naturally, you'll want to keep precious breakables on a high shelf, too. For an extra safety measure, a few plastic outlet plugs are in order.

Remember, a grandparent's home is a place of mystery and excitement to a child. It's an undiscovered land with unknown surprises, but the natives are all friendly and loving. They're going to want to explore your world, with you as the leader of the safari. Don't show them everything at once; save a little for future visits. There's no need to reach the

when a day in just the basement will suffice.

Dress-up is still a favorite activity, for boys as well as girls. At home, they're usually not allowed to get into mom and dad's good clothing, but if Grandma and Grandpa have old clothes tucked away, watch out. Prod their creativity a bit by asking them to dress for a royal reception or for a voyage at sea. Be sure to include old costume jewelry, gloves and the perennial kids' favorite, hats.

Grandparents are without doubt the best at recounting family histories, and grandkids love to look at pictures of mommy and daddy when they were little. You can get the little ones interested in their family history and genealogy by having them help create new scrapbooks from all of the photos and

mementos from years past.

When working on a scrapbook, youngsters will stay involved as long as you make it interesting. When sorting pictures of family members, be sure to include stories about each one, and it's OK if you exaggerate slightly in the adventure department. Point out to your grandchildren how much they resemble their great-grandparents, and note other similarities between the people in the photos and the ones on your lap.

Believe it or not, the grandkids can actually have a wonderful afternoon helping you clean. As mentioned, cupboards, closets, junk drawers and workbenches all hold unseen treasures for a child. Have them help you clean out and organize these areas, with the promise that play will be involved with some of what

they find. Be ready, though, to answer lots of questions, mostly along the line of "What's this thing for?"

When you take them out:

Trips with the grandkids can be made more rewarding and trouble-free when you devise a simple plan for the event, even if it's just a trip to the park. Rather than arriving at your destination and wandering aimlessly or waiting for something to come up, have the children anticipating a planned course of action.

Before a trip to the zoo, have the kids guess which animal will be the biggest, the smallest, or the funniest. Keep tabs on their choices as you make the rounds. A trip to the park can mean more than just pushing them on the swings if you plan a "hunt" beforehand. List some items for

them to find, such as a feather, an acorn, pine cones or the leaves of certain trees. During their search, you'll be sure to give explanations of all of the other wonderful things that they discover.

There is really no age too young when it comes to a trip to a library or museum, though these may be shorter trips for very young children. Children's books can be an adventure in themselves, especially if it's a book that Grandma or Grandpa read when they were children. At the museum, the most interesting place for a youngster is usually the gift shop, but at least it's better than a toy store. There, if you decide to indulge them with a gift, choose a puzzle or educational plaything that you can enjoy together.

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The Best Friend A Senior Can Have

By Daniel Aspell

Do you remember your first puppy or kitten? Remember how it gave you unconditional love just for a little petting and play, and for keeping its dish full? Then imagine being without companionship for most of the day, if not days at a time. This is the reason why a furry, four-legged companion (or even a feathered or finned one) can enrich the lives of seniors.

In later years, the nest is often empty, and even the spouse may be gone. But the addition of a pet suddenly brings new life into a house; there is activity, responsibility and another life to share. It's no wonder that many senior organizations and animal shelters are in alliance to bring the elderly and animals together.

We first started seeing the

benefits decades ago, when retirement and nursing homes began allowing volunteers and social workers to bring in canines, felines and even parrots on their weekly visits. The response was overwhelmingly in favor of the animals, as residents and patients seemed to love and respond to the contact.

And of course, it's easy to see why. An animal, especially a young one, is vulnerable, seeks attention and positive reinforcement, and offers its own type of direct affection. It doesn't care what a person's age or physical condition is...as long as that person acknowledges them or knows how to scratch them behind the ears.

According to seniorsite.com, having a pet brings greater socialization tools to seniors as the pet becomes the subject of conversations, anecdotes and happy stories.

And while a normal person's blood pressure rises when encountering another person, the opposite occurs when interacting with an animal.

In many communities throughout the U.S. and Canada, animal shelters and social service organizations are teaming up to make it easy for seniors to adopt a pet. Many have either reduced or waived the fees usually incurred with adoption, and actively seek pet/owner matches with seniors. On the advice of some veterinarians and caregivers, often an older animal is adopted by a senior, as they require less activity and strenuous play than a young pet.

As rewarding as a pet can be emotionally, they often go well beyond that. A dog, for example, can at times offer a sense of security that multiple locks on a door cannot. Pets are so often intuitive about dangers ranging from gas leaks to earthquakes, that they provide a real comfort when they are a senior's only roommate.

Beyond just their training for the sight-impaired, dogs are being trained more to help the hearing and physically disadvantaged as well. Some local agencies, through state or local funding, can offer dogs trained to be alert to doorbells, telephones, smoke detectors and other important signals.

If you happen to be, or know of, a senior who might appreciate a loyal friend, check with your local animal shelters and community agencies to see what adoption programs are available. After all, with just a minimum amount of time and paperwork, at least two lives will benefit.

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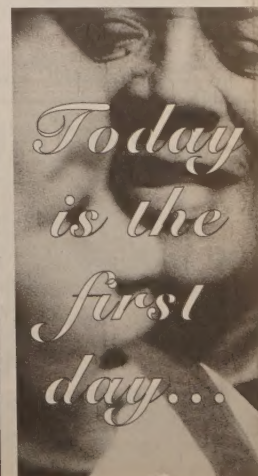


Art (far left) on the Cal crew
and Dorothy's graduation picture



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Cartoon

FROM PAGE A1

it seems to work.

"If you focus on the tragedy, it works," he said. "If you look at funerals, there are 50 things going on that are funny. It's a release."

Just being picked up by United Feature Syndicate was a major accomplishment. The syndicate signs less than a handful of the estimated 6,000 strips submitted each year, said Amy Lago, the company's vice president of comics. A number of them never make it off the company's Web site, which, so far, is the only public viewing spot for "Pearls Before Swine."

Lago declined to give an opinion of the strip's chances of appearing in newspapers but did point out it follows the lead of some of the most popular strips.

"It's funny — he's a real good humor writer," Lago said. "A lot of people would say that he went to the Scott Adams school of cartooning. It's minimalist."

Legal fees still pay the bills, at least until the strip gets into newspapers. Though Pastis frequently e-mails Adams, they've never met face to



face. Nonetheless, his help has been instrumental; once Adams endorsed the strip, public interest skyrocketed. "If I make it, it'll be because of Scott," Pastis said. "I said I'd offer to paint his house and trim his hedges." Pastis, who has no art training, also got valuable advice from another United cartoonist before signing his deal — his childhood idol Charles Schulz. Shortly before his death, Schulz drew a shaky-handed picture of Snoopy on his Sopwith Camel that

hangs in Pastis' basement.

Pastis got to know the "Peanuts" creator well enough to call him "Sparky," as did most of Schulz's friends. A picture of the two sits near the Snoopy drawing.

"The best part of (getting United's interest) was the timing," Pastis said. "When Amy would come out, she'd always take me to Sparky's. He'd say, 'Now this is good, that's funny that you only have two characters. You need more than that.'"

So he added a goat and zebra. And it seems to be working.

"I'm almost positive there's never been an attorney who's been a syndicated cartoonist," Pastis said. "As an attorney, you're supposed to be a rock, nothing affects you. It's weird. You lose a lot of the things that make you human."

"The attorneys in my firm have been cool," he said. "They know the second this takes off, I'll quit."

"Pigs Before Swine" can be found at www.unitedmedia.com/comics/pearls.

Threats

FROM PAGE A1

dents long to figure out they could close down the school with similar threats.

Now, police hope that by not overreacting the issue will die down.

They may be right, if Berkeley High School is any example.

Though Berkeley has its share of problems, bomb threats is apparently not one of them.

Berkeley Lt. Russell Lopes recalls only one similar call being made to

the school's administrators office, but officials opted not to act on it.

"I don't recall the high school ever being evacuated for any kind of bomb threat," he said.

School spokeswoman Karen Sarlo added that last year's series of arson incidents may have fulfilled any tendencies in that direction.

Still, that's not to say all threats are idle.

Even perceived pranks should be taken seriously, says Mike Ayers, the student resource officer who scours the Albany High School campus daily for signs of trouble.

Like Berkeley High, the school has not had a problem with such threats.

The school has seen only a couple instances of threats or false alarms in recent years.

Ayers believes the typical cause to be a student who is very upset about something or simply seeking attention.

And if the problem becomes enough of a nuisance, there is hope of catching the perpetrator, he said.

In one case, Albany police managed to charge a teen with making "terrorist threats" after he called the school to say someone at the school

was carrying a gun.

"There have been new, enhanced laws that pertain to terrorist threats," he said. "It's a much more serious criminal offense (nowadays)."

In addition, Pacific Bell has been good about working with the Albany Police Department to track calls, he added.

A youth found guilty of such a prank could be charged with a misdemeanor and likely end up in juvenile probation.

But it would be a hard case to prove, without much more information to go by than the caller's voice, conceded Mann.

Gill

FROM PAGE A1

about using things properly in a responsible manner."

A statement letter provided by the university says that Roundup is used in a "responsible, controlled and minimal manner." It states that scientists from the college "are confident that Roundup as utilized at the Gill Tract does not pose a risk to nearby residents and school children or to the environment."

"Studies by the Extension Toxicology Network, a coalition of universities in five states that conducts independent research on pesticides

and herbicides, have found that Roundup has few if any toxic effects unless exceedingly large quantities are consumed."

The Albany Coalition for Environmental Health, however, points to other information. They quote Dr. Marion Moses, director of the Pesticide Education Center of San Francisco:

"Although glyphosate (Roundup) is not in the highest toxicity category for acute poisoning, it is a toxic formulation containing a mixture of other ingredients that can increase its potential toxicity," Moses states in a letter urging the use of "nontoxic weed control measures" at Gill Tract.

"As all pesticides do, it can and will drift from the site of application

to the surrounding neighborhood. Such a drift can potentially harm those with asthma, hyperactive airways, allergies, and chemical sensitivities. Drift also poses a risk to those with compromised immune systems, including cancer survivors."

Last year the coalition presented a 350-signature petition to the dean of the College of Natural Resources opposing the use of pesticides and herbicides at Gill Tract.

"We demand that the University of California at Berkeley discontinue use immediately and refrain from using pesticides and herbicides from now on in keeping with the current policies and practices of the cities of Albany and Berkeley and the Albany

unified and Berkeley unified school districts," the petition reads. "Their maintenance departments do not use any pesticides/herbicides in public places such as around schools, on school grounds, in public parks and median strips," it adds.

Dorez says the coalition will continue to protest the use of Roundup at Gill Tract and plans to go to the Albany School Board to seek its support.

Marsha Skinner, president of the school board, said the board may consider the matter at its March 27 meeting, although the date is not certain at this time.

"As far as I know, they have complied with what they promised they were going to do," Skinner said of

Albany K-5 registration set to begin on Feb. 28

The Albany Unified School District will register children for admission to kindergarten for the fall of 2001 on Wednesday, Feb. 28, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave. Starting March 1, children may be registered at Ocean View, Marin, or Cornell schools.

Also, children in grades 1-5 who currently reside in Albany need to register at this time.

School officials say registering your child at the closest school does not guarantee assignment there and that many factors are considered in student assignment.

For kindergarten registration, parents must bring the child's certified birth certificate, baptismal certificate or passport and be prepared to fill out health forms concerning vaccinations, immunizations, and childhood diseases.

Documentation of the dates of immunizations for polio, DTP, measles (rubella), mumps, rubella (German measles), hepatitis B, and varicella (chickenpox) for each kindergarten child is required.

No child can enter kindergarten next fall without these immunizations. Minimum doses required for polio are three, as long as one dose was received on or after the fourth birthday for kindergartners, or for children 7 years and up, on or after the second birthday; four doses of DTP, as long as one dose was received on or after the fourth birthday for kindergartners, or three doses of DTP for children 7 years and up if one dose was given on or after the second birthday. Measles, rubella, and mumps require two doses, provided they were both re-

ceived on or after the first birthday or for children in first through fourth grades, one dose is enough. For hepatitis b, three doses; and for varicella for kindergartners, one dose. Note that no child will be allowed to attend school unless all immunizations are complete.

Parents must also provide proof of rental agreement, plus forms of proof of Albany residency such as a W-2 form, utility statement, or public assistance documents.

Children are eligible for school kindergarten if they are 5 years of age on or before Sept. 1, 2001. The district cannot accept registration for children younger than that age, even though they may have several years of preschool experience. (All kindergarten registration must provide proof of age.)

Officials say accurate registration is important to the district's planning next year's class size. Registration on Feb. 28 is not required for your child during the hours at any elementary school as soon as possible after that date of registration may be considered in making school assignments.

This registration is for Albany residents only. Nonresidents interested in enrolling next year's students in Albany may register for enrollment at the District Center on Tuesday, May 1.

An information evening for kindergarten parents will be Wednesday, Feb. 21 (7-8 p.m.) at the Albany Multi-Purpose Room, 1249 Marin Ave.

Trees

FROM PAGE A1

pose of the public informational meeting was primarily to allay public concerns that some type of clear-cutting program was being contemplated at the park. "There was a concern that was very ill-founded that we were just going to go in and cut out all the trees," Damon said. "There is not going to be a clear-cutting like that, it's going to be a thinning which is long overdue."

Damon said Monterey pine is the wrong tree for the park and that they will be replaced with trees that are "more suitable to the park." He said that because of public comments at the meeting the pines may be removed over a longer period of time to reduce the visual impact of their removal.

"No final plan is in place yet," Damon said at this week's City Council meeting. "We have the outline of a plan that will be addressed by the Park and Recreation Commission which will make recommendations on how we will proceed."

Park and Recreation Commission

Commissioner Rosemary Loubal says that a comprehensive, phased approach is needed.

"A long-term plan should be developed to replace Monterey pines over a 10-year or so period, staged so as to fairly balance the interests of both park users and immediate park neighbors," Loubal said in a letter presented to the City Council this week.

She said that it should be acknowledged that promoting Monterey pines at the park was a mistake that needs to be redressed. "There should be no new ones grown and those about to topple should be removed," Loubal said.

However, Loubal said that the 47 trees currently marked for removal are "view obstructing trees" and that most seem healthy. "Meanwhile, dangerously leaning and sick trees, not all Monterey pines, elsewhere in the park were left unmarked," she said. "Clearly, staff concentrated just on the view concerns, assuming other funds will be expended to deal with other issues."

Loubal questioned the city's claim that the Monterey pines in the park are nearing the end of their life expectancy. Citing recent research by two UC professors, she also said

some of the trees "will undergo remission and survive indefinitely."

Loubal also noted that the city sent notices about the informational meeting only to neighbors living north and east of the park. "Obviously, parks are used by neighbors living in all directions and it would have been appropriate to post notices at local stores and in newspapers," she said.

King said he will present the results of the Feb. 13 meeting to the Park and Recreation Commission later this month. "Several people felt

that maybe we should look at the entire park, not just the upper portion of the park."

He said the scope of work may be expanded and that a phased approach is a possibility. "At the meeting most of the people said that if the trees are a problem, let's get the trees out," King said. "The phasing may still be up in the air and park and rec will have to deal with that issue, but I think we are going to expand the scope of work to look at the entire park."

King denied that the plan concentrates on view concerns. "I would certainly not say that views are driving this issue," he said. "It's a culmination of things with the views just being one component."

Neighbors living north and east of the park were notified about the informational meeting because those are the ones who will be most affected by the park plan, King said. "We wanted to get the people who are above the park who would be impacted the most by anything we were doing right there."



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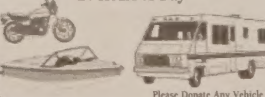
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February 23, 2001

Section B

Weekly Home Sales Maintain your focus on the East Bay real estate scene [B7]
Open Home Guide See what's on sale in your neighborhood [B12]



PHOTO BY LEN BLAU

MARIN SCHOOL SECOND GRADE TEACHER DIANE MELTZER, wearing Respect T-shirt, directs her students as they work on their art projects. Looking on from left: Albany Education Foundation's Miriam Gersherson, Berkeley Hills Realty's Maya Trilling and Bill McDowell (seated) and art teacher Noreen Linden.

Berkeley Hills Realty extends helping hand to the Albany Education Foundation

When the Albany Education Foundation's Sally Outis approached Berkeley Hills Realty for a grant to fund a year 2000 Art Poetry Calendar for Diane Meltzer's second-grade class at Marin School, she was in luck.

The agents at Berkeley Hills Realty give a portion of each closed escrow to a "donation fund," which the agency in turn gives to worthwhile causes.

The Art Poetry Calendar turned into a display of quite stunning artistic talent.

"We are always looking for ways to support our local communities and children," said Berkeley Hills Realty co-owner Peter Damm.

The lengthy list of recipients in the year 2000 include

- Christmas in April
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- Lance Armstrong Foundation

- Cornell School Albany
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- Young Musicians Program
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- American Cancer Society
- Marine Mammal Center
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- Kensington School

- Albany Education Foundation
- Skateboard Park
- Berkeley Education Foundation
- Oral Lee Brown Foundation
- Friends of Kensington Library
- West Coast Children's Center
- Bay Area Ridge Trail
- East Bay Conservation Corps
- Berkeley Repertory Theatre.

Determining the strongest offer

Despite serious economic warning signals, our local real estate market is maintaining a torrid pace for the fifth consecutive year. I know of two properties that recently received 34 and 32 offers, respectively. This past week, one of my listings engendered 16 bids; another attracted 15.

In multiple-offer situations, most buyers recognize that the asking price is simply the starting point. As a higher-than-list price is generally given in competition, a seller must take other factors into consideration before ratifying a contract. Understanding what constitutes a strong offer is important to buyers, before writing, and sellers, before accepting, a purchase contract.

Can the buyer perform?

The crucial question, above all others, is whether the buyer will actually perform, i.e., close the escrow on the written terms and conditions. This is always a best guess, based upon experience. As a seller, you must rely on your Realtor's professionalism, knowledge and longevity in the business. Hopefully, you thought about this before hiring your agent.

Not long ago, a seller received an offer with a cover note from a licensee guaranteeing that his was a strong buyer who would close escrow in 30 days or less. The listing agent asked if the buyer's cash was "liquid and available now." He was assured it was.

The seller's agent took the additional step of calling the mortgage broker who had provided the pre-approval letter. He then discovered that the buyer's funds would not be available in time for the close of escrow. This was a case where the buyer could not perform the contract as originally written.



By Don Dunning

In the end, the principals were able to work it out. Nevertheless, if that call to the lender had not been made, the close would have been delayed, resulting in an unhappy seller.

Although the highest price sounds best, an offer that does not close is worthless. Even all cash sales are not necessarily the "slam-dunk" they appear to be. The best listing agents protect their sellers by insisting on substantiation of all the funds necessary to close the escrow before the seller accepts.

Terms and other issues

It is not always easy to dovetail the needs of the buyer and seller; each has to coordinate moving elsewhere. In competition, allowing the seller flexibility in relinquishing possession of the property is counted as a plus for the buyer.

This could involve a combination of a longer close of escrow and seller rent back, some, or all, of which may be at no cost to the seller.

Another concern is how the buyer will handle inspections. In a bidding war, some buyers waive all contingencies. This means they are not

see DUNNING on page B4

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FIND OUR LISTINGS ON THE INTERNET! <http://www.bhramont.com>

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THE BEST OF BERKELEY.....\$399,000
 The grandeur of this traditional gem could be restored by you! Spacious and convenient to shops and restaurants. Don't wait to see this one!
 1106 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley
 Rosemary Greene 510-339-4000

Open Sunday 2-4:30



NEW LISTING - STUNNING TOWNHOUSE.....\$298,000
 San Leandro's premiere gated community offers peaceful quality surroundings. Spacious three bedroom, three bath in impeccable condition with perfect floorplan.
 Earle Shenk 510-339-4000



CLASSIC CRAFTSMAN IN BERKELEY.....\$325,000
 Sweet bungalow on sunny corner lot, original architectural details, built-ins, country kitchen, hardwood floors, fireplace, walk to BART and Farmer's Market.
 1701 Derby St., Berkeley
 Mary Jane McConville 510-339-8400

CHARMING DUPLEX.....\$320,000
 Two units side by side with homey feel. Both units have two bedrooms, one bath, wood floors, lovely garden, quiet street, garage. A must see. Please call by - call for an appointment.
 166-728 E 22nd Avenue Teresa Chan 510-339-4000



CHARMING CREEKSIDE COTTAGE.....\$319,000
 Charming 1916 home with private deck overlooking Redwood Creek! Spacious floor plan with formal dining, hardwood floors, move-in condition!
 1806 Canon Ave. Patricia Bennett 510-339-8400



CHARMING STARTER!.....\$275,000
 In a delightful neighborhood situated on a large lot with plans on file for possible additions. Offering hardwood floors, a large centrally located kitchen, built-ins, and a large, sunny rear yard. You will adore this two bedroom, one bath home
 3821 Midvale Avenue Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400

GLIEWVIEW GEM!.....\$459,000
 ...With an incredible back yard. Three bedrooms, spacious living & dining areas, plank hardwood floors, rumpus room, and two fireplaces.
 1926 Clemens Road Nahid Nassiri 510-287-5770

UPSCALE LAKE MERRITT HI-RISE.....\$295,000
 Are you captivated by stunning views? Then don't miss this one bedroom, two bath condo by the lake! Complete gym and pool, parking and storage.
 565 Bellevue #2001 Rosemary Greene 510-339-4000

By Appointment

FRENCH COUNTRY IN PLEASANTON.....\$2,195,000
 Five bedrooms, four and a half baths, bonus/media room, elegant kitchen with granite counter tops, cherry wood cabinets, truly a chateau, surrounded by lush grounds backing to open space, secluded yard with pool and spa
 Better Homes 925-837-2200

By Appointment

SPECTACULAR.....\$1,099,000
 Finished to the "T"...Danville home featuring spacious kitchen with granite counters, hardwood floors, decorator touches throughout, sparkling custom pool and spa, four bedrooms, three baths, three car garage, beautifully maintained neighborhood.
 Better Homes 925-837-2200

MILLION DOLLAR VIEW IN PIEDMONT.....\$1,175,000
 This spacious traditional features San Francisco, Golden Gate views, four bedrooms, three baths, hardwood. Huge rumpus room for family and entertaining. First time ever on market. Ample storage space.
 Martha Shin 510-339-8400

PIEDMONT TRADITIONAL.....\$795,000
 Classic details, french door, built-in bookcases, hardwood floors, beautiful staircase, spacious master bedroom suite, two car garage. Walk to town and all three schools. Large deck.
 Charlene Claybaugh 510-339-8400



CROCKER HIGHLANDS TUDOR.....\$750,000
 Original architectural details, beam ceiling, built-ins, bay window, classic tile fireplace, private one bedroom and bath on main level, spacious master bedroom suite, remodeled bath, two car garage with interior access.
 Mary Jane McConville or Charlene Claybaugh 510-339-8400

EXECUTIVE HOME IN SAN RAMON.....\$670,000
 Groomed neighborhood, every home exudes fashionable curb appeal, this one being the best. Finished to a T...spacious kitchen, cozy family room, four bedrooms, three baths, light and bright.
 Better Homes 925-837-2200

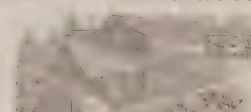
PARADISE FOUND IN SAN RAMON.....\$580,000
 Private courtyard entrance, marble flooring, spacious living room with loads of light, gourmet kitchen with nook, three bedrooms, three baths, like a vacation at home.
 Better Homes 925-837-2200

A "10".....\$579,000
 Great house all the way through, elegant master suite, with see through fireplace, sitting area, step up bath, spacious first floor with gourmet kitchen, deck off family room, quiet and private
 Better Homes 925-837-2200

By Appointment



ROOM TO ROOM!.....\$549,000
 Four bedrooms, two family rooms and spacious living room with fireplace all surrounded by redwoods! Ready for your decorator touch!
 Patricia Bennett 510-339-8400



CUSTOM HOME WITH VIEW.....\$459,000
 Dramatic contemporary in private setting with lots of space, light, view, plus upgrades, three bedrooms, two baths, third bedroom is 16'x40', very quiet area.
 Arnold Mueller 510-339-4000



NEW LISTING IN MAXWELL PARK.....\$298,000
 Located on one of the nicest streets in Maxwell Park, this charming three plus bedroom bungalow features a stone fireplace in living room, formal dining, plus extra rooms for den and workshop.
 Rosie Nysaether 510-339-8400



GREAT DUPLEX.....\$285,000
 ..Right across from Mills College. Owner's unit is a two bedroom, two bath, with high ceilings in charming living room and in move-in condition. Tenant's unit is two bedrooms, one bath. Large lot!
 Noni Robinson 510-339-8400

Funny things happen on the way to a sale

Number 355 in a series of true experiences in real estate

We're still looking for the right buyer for our Rockridge duplex. We find this extremely surprising. Not that it didn't sell right away — it did.

Twice, in fact.

The first buyer was in contract for less than a day when personal reasons caused her to withdraw. We put it back on the market and in less than a week, a second offer was accepted by the seller.

This time the buyers were a couple who planned to live in the upstairs flat and their friend, a single woman, who intended to live downstairs.

The couple lives here and had been looking intensely for a house in Rockridge for some time. Joining forces with the friend would allow them to buy something more expensive than they could afford alone.

Unfortunately, the friend lives in Texas, and although the building had been described to her and she was enthusiastic about buying it, she had never seen the property, nor had she been here to see any others.

She had no basis for comparison, nor is she familiar with the Bay Area housing market.

The couple went forward for a few days, had inspections done, which they found quite satisfactory, and they made plans for moving in.

But then the friend unexpectedly balked. Maybe this wasn't the time for her to buy, she said. The couple had no choice but to withdraw their contract.

So we put our duplex back on the market again. This has never happened to us before, so we were somewhat dismayed.

But as we find the building attractive and in good repair, not to mention that it is located in sought after Rockridge, close to BART and good coffee, we remain confident that it will indeed sell.

We have been told by several agents that they expected multiple offers to drive up the \$475,000 asking price.

They had either not shown the property to clients they thought would find it interesting, or they had discouraged clients from making an offer to buy it.

In the over-heated market we've been experiencing in the

last few years, buyers often make offers on a number of properties before finding success. This is a dispiriting process for both agents and their clients and so, after losing their hearts a time or two, or more, buyers can't bear to enter another competition. It is completely understandable.

But sometimes, even in this market, there is another chance, as there is in this case. The buyers we had did not walk away because something about the building kept them from buying it. Rather, their individual life scenes changed.

The building is, just as it was from the beginning, desirable in many ways although several weeks have gone by since it was a brand new listing.

Because buyers and agents are sensitive to the length of time a listing has been on the market, there are probably people who are avoiding serious consideration of this building.

It is likely that they think that it has some serious problem. Otherwise, wouldn't it have sold by now?

So my message to would-be buyers today is this: Do not assume. Instead, find out.

If you are looking to buy and you see a property that you like and would work for you, don't assume that you won't be able to buy it. Look into the situation, find out what is going on with it.

And, even if offers are made on that property, even if the Pending Sale sign goes up in front, follow what happens next.

Maybe it isn't sold after all. Maybe you will get your chance to buy it.

Because funny things happen all the time in real estate. People change their minds, or their lives change, or they can't get the loan they expected to get, and so on.

Our listing is one case in point, and we think it's a good one. This building works well for someone wanting to live in one of the two bedroom flats while renting out the other.

It would be good for partners to occupy together. It even works, money-wise, for an investor.

There is no horrible truth about this building that has come to light in the last few weeks, and yet, it is still available. This same scenario may well be true for other properties

True Experiences



By Tarpo and Talbert

We find the building attractive and in good repair, not to mention that it is located in sought after Rockridge, close to BART and good coffee, we remain confident that it will indeed sell.

you may have seen and been interested in owning.

Maybe you couldn't move fast enough so you didn't make an offer. Your loan application wasn't completed yet or you hadn't been pre-approved for a purchase. Maybe you believed that the property you wanted would sell for so much more than asking price that you didn't bother to move on it.

You might want to inquire about what the status of that property is now. Maybe it is meant to be yours.

And if a duplex in Rockridge, not huge but quite pretty and sunny, with a yard and a storage shed, close to all that Rockridge has to offer, is of interest to you, please contact your agent about our listing right away. It is located on Boyd Avenue.

Anet Tarpo and Pat Talbert are licensed real estate agents who specialize in single family houses. They also offer hourly real estate consulting and coaching. They can be reached by e-mail at patanet@lmi.net or by phone at 510-653-2050.

A look around the real estate community

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

ATTENTION PUBLIC

Real Estate Careers

Would you like a career in real estate? Do you want to know what it takes? Do you need help preparing for the exam? Help is available through the Noble Fields School of Real Estate. For more information call the Oakland office at 510-451-7977 or the main office in San Francisco at 415-956-6169.

Free Senior Care Guide

Georgia Richardson of Richardson Real Estate Services is offering New Lifestyles, an area guide to senior residences and care options. The guides are available for the San Francisco Bay or the Sacramento-North Bay areas. To obtain a complimentary issue, contact Richardson at 510-569-3499.

Home Buying Education

Woman To Woman Workshop is geared to educating women on the basic principles of homebuying. Issues and concerns dealing with women will be addressed in "womanspeak." The workshop includes home selection insights and demystifying the purchase process. Qualifying guidelines, closing costs and cost reduction will be explained. The workshop facilitator is mortgage broker, Karen Ward of RE Loan Mortgage in Albany. The workshop is available at no cost, but reservations are a must. The next date is Saturday, March 24 from 9 a.m. to noon. For reservations call the Workshop Hotline at 510-718-2134.

McCormack's Guides

McCormack's Guides for 2001 are now available. These relocation/newcomer guide books are more than a directory. They're loaded with information such as academic rankings for local public schools, SAT scores for local high schools, city profiles and directories of hospitals and private schools. Want to know where to go and what to? It's in the guide. Buy 10 or more and save over 50 percent. For costs and ordering information call 1-800-222-3602.

OAR & ORA LEE

When one thinks of Oakland and kids and scholarships, the first name that comes to mind is Ora Lee Brown. Her promise and dedication have provided college scholarship funds for high school students. Her promise grew to become the Ora Lee Brown Foundation. The Oakland Association of Realtors wanted to do something extra to help support that

foundation. A committee, chaired by Evelyn Walker of Coldwell Banker was formed to create an simple and easy way for those in the real estate community to contribute. Though still in the planning stages, Walker reports that title companies and brokers are being contacted to participate. The end result will be a system whereby real estate agents and brokers may designate contributions, at the close of escrow, for a special fund. The proceeds of the fund will be donated to the Ora Lee Brown Foundation. To find out more contact Walker at 510-339-4778.

THANKS COLDWELL BANKER

The North Oakland Community Charter School was in need of an office copy machine for their school. Coldwell Banker's COO, Avram Goldman stepped up to the plate and made the schools wish a reality. They are thankful for the generous donation. For more information on the school or to offer support contact Allison Pugh at 510-653-5815.

THE POWER OF TWO

"Let the Power of 2 Work for You" is the theme of a recent merger of two home warranty companies. Fidelity National Home Warranty and Chicago Home Warranty are now a team. They promise "...to deliver more than the customer expects." Applications can be phoned in at 800-862-6837 or order online at home warranty.com.

CALLING ALL MORTGAGE PROFESSIONALS

The Breakfast Club

Join with other mortgage brokers, loan officers, lenders, appraisers and others in the industry to learn new ideas and brainstorm with others. The Wednesday Morning Breakfast Meetings are presented by the California Association of Residential Lenders (CARL). Meetings are held at Financial Title in Danville and begin promptly at 8:15 a.m. No need for reservations, just show up and bring your undivided attention. A continental style breakfast is offered. Future speakers are Feb. 28, Ernie Born of Indy Mac on "How Indy Mac Makes It Easier For You" and on March 7, Lucy Moreton-Hall of Financial Title on "Problems Escrow Officers Face — And Solve".

Speaker - Speaker

The CARL Breakfast Club is look-

Credit Worthy



ing for timely and interesting news. Do you know of any? Please call Pat Johnson at 925-3358 or Dale Junta at 925-3358.

UPCOMING FOR REALTORS

Strike Or Spare

Strike, spare or even game? It makes no difference because just for fun. The Association of Property Brokers (APB) is sponsoring their Annual Family Fun Night. If you would like information or wish to attend, contact Bridget Cain of Fidelity National at 510-893-8100.

WCR HORSE RACES

The Women's Council of the East Bay Chapter is co-sponsoring their annual "Day At The Races." The event is planned for Wednesday, March 21 at the Golden Gate Turf Club. The cost is \$30 per person and includes a beer and lunch at noon. Post time for the races is 12:45 p.m. with the last race at 4:30 p.m. WCR's "Day At The Races" is held in conjunction with the Francisco and Contra Costa County Fair. Reservations are a must. Contact Lee Jacobson of Pacific at 510-339-6460 ext. 308.

TECH FAIRE 2001 PLANNING

About the Fair

The Alameda Association of Realtors and the Oakland Association of Realtors are planning an event, Tech Faire 2001. The scheduled for March 28-30, 2001. There will be free training for real estate professionals. The purpose is to educate on today's computer technology relating to the industry. The event concludes on Friday, with a vendor

see WORTHY on page 2

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 A dramatic 6 bedroom 4 bath Contemporary home on one acre.
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Open Sunday 2-4:30
New Listing!

34 Calvert Court, Piedmont
 With all the advantages of modern design including high ceilings, expansive windows and free-flowing spaces, this 50's contemporary is located on a private double cul-de-sac lot. Offered at \$685,000
Angela Wei Grubb
 Office: 339.0400/202
 Residence: 658.8834
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 Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

Upper Rockridge
5943 Buena Vista Avenue, Oakland

- Three Levels
- 4 Bedrooms / 2 1/2 Baths
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- Box Beam Sunken Living Room with Fireplace
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Open Sunday 2-4:30
New Listing!

28 Rydal Court, Montclair
 Newer construction, large park-like garden, 4B master suite/2.5 BA, chef's kitchen/family room, fireplace, formal dining room, great natural light. Offered at \$829,000
Kurt Buchholz
 Office: 339.0400/221
 Residence: 531.1091
GRUBBCO.COM
The GRUBB Co.
 Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

Open Sunday 2-4:30
New Listing!

60 Portsmouth Road, Piedmont
 Conveniently located on a quiet street, near transportation, this spacious traditional home has four or five bedrooms (depending on your count), baths and a sunny eat-in kitchen level. Offered at \$729,000
Katherine Cooper
 Office: 339.0400/211
GRUBBCO.COM
The GRUBB Co.
 Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

Worthy

PAGE B3

Gregg Fujita of Harbor Bay Realty is chairing the week event. Watch this column for details or call AAR at 510-523-3000 or OAR at 510-836-3000.

Don't miss this chance to participate in Tech Faire 2001, the Real Estate Professional Seminar Series. TF is looking for technology based vendors. Vendor Booth and Product Workshop opportunities are still available. To receive an information form contact Donna at 510-561-1477 or email donna@techfaire.com.

Tech Faire 2001 promises a lot of fun for your buck. The fair attracts

real estate professionals from throughout the entire East Bay area. There are four levels of sponsorship offered and each provides sponsor recognition and more. Share in the success by calling 510-561-1477.

WHERE DID THEY GO

Alamedan, Nancy Long Brandt has joined Harbor Bay Realty. Her highly comprehensive real estate career included her position as Principal Real Estate Specialist for the University of California. She will now be concentrating her energies on residential sales.

Laura Raney, broker-owner of Vintage Mortgage announced the addition of Margie Lupo to Vintage. Lupo has been a Mortgage Loan Consultant for the last four years. She began her eighteen year career as an escrow officer in the mortgage title industry. Lupo, a lifelong East Bay resident, grew up in San Leandro. She specializes in first-time homebuyers and conducts workshops to

educate the buyer. She maintains ties with family and friends in the central county area. You can say "hey" by calling 1-800-799-3377.

Gregg Fujita of Harbor Bay Realty spoke at the CRS National Sell-A-Bration in Palm Springs. The CRS Rally, "2001: Success Odyssey, combined keynote speakers and educational sessions. Fujita spoke on "Let Technology Do The Work For You". He can be reached at 510-522-6222.

Let me know what's up

I need your information for this column. Fundraisers, meetings, announcements, promotions, designations and change of scenery (company). Deadline is the Friday before publication date. Fax me at 510-441-7191 or call 510-581-4080.

Bobbie Reid is a freelance writer and columnist. She is a California real estate licensee and has been an active affiliate member of the industry since 1988.

Julie Nachtwey

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BERKELEY



COMING ATTRACTION! • 44 Domingo
A unique & spacious 1975 home in the very convenient Claremont neighborhood! Showings begin March 8.
Bebe McRae, ext. 145.....\$795,000



COMING ATTRACTION! • 18 Oakvale
Serene & captivating! A very special 6BR/4BA home in the Claremont! Showings begin March 13.
Bebe McRae, ext. 145.....\$1,550,000



1016 GRIZZLY PEAK • Open Sunday 2-4
Customized home of extraordinary beauty & sophistication. Ideal for one or two. Paneling, Bay windows, master suite w/sauna. Secluded gardens. Privacy.
Julie Templeton, ext. 131.....\$875,000



2945 ASHBY
Claremont Grand Prairie style Craftsman. Many original details. Rooms w/ large proportions. 5+BR, 2++BA, separate legal guest house, rent control exempt!
Ruth Frassetto, ext. 147.....\$778,000



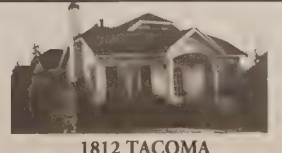
2356 CORONA CT
Located on a quiet cul-de-sac with beautiful views of the Bay & a landscaped yard sits this handsome Normandy style home. Designed by renowned architect John Hudson Thomas.
Bebe McRae, ext. 127.....\$775,000



36 TAMALPAIS ROAD • Open 2-4 p.m.
Rare craftsman beauty! Oversized lot. Flexible floorplan. 3+++BR/3BA, double garage.
Susie Schevill, ext. 144.....\$690,000



NORTH BERKELEY HILLS
Wonderful craftsman with Bay views! 3BR, 1.5BA, gourmet kitchen & large lot! Great neighborhood!
Bebe McRae, ext. 145.....\$675,000



1812 TACOMA
A Thousand Oaks charmer! Lovely 3BR/1BA home boasts rich craftsman detailing. Needs "TLC" Located on wonderful tree lined street. Walking distance to Solano Ave., Thousand Oaks School/Park & public transportation.
Anne Van Dyke, ext. 137.....\$539,000 As Is

2601 COLLEGE #109 • OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

near UCI 2+BR, 2 BA, new carpet elevator! Bebe McRae, ext. 145.....\$295,000

OAKLAND

THE PARKWOOD 260 CALDECOTT LANE #224

Listing! Lovely 2BR/2BA "Montclair" condo, bright & in excellent condition.
Bebe McRae, ext. 140/\$350,000

KENSINGTON

1605 OCEAN VIEW

Fixer! Great opportunity! Very close to coffee & shops! 3BR/1BA.
Susie Schevill, ext. 144.....\$375,000 As Is

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www.templetonleverette.com



Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide on page B12



Nahid Nassiri
(510) 287-5770

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3821 MIDVALE AVENUE
OAKLAND, CA 94602

Charming Starter

In a delightful neighborhood, situated on a large lot with plans on file for possible additions. Offering hardwood floors, a large centrally located kitchen, built-ins and a large, sunny rear yard. You will adore this home.

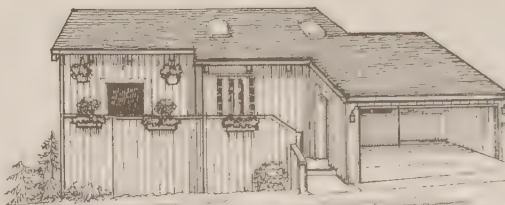
• 2 bedroom, 1 bath



Sunday Open House
February 25, 2001
2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

OPEN SUNDAY FEBRUARY 25th 2 - 4:30PM

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REALTORS



MARY NEUBERGER
Bus: (510) 531-7000 ext. 251
Res: (510) 530-4148
Email: mary@ebirdi.com

6705 Oakwood Drive

Lovely views of canyon and Bay are yours from this light-filled Montclair contemporary. Extensively remodeled in 1997. Four spacious bedrooms, two and one half baths plus family room. Several large decks for outdoor entertainment and leisure.

Offered at \$599,000

New Listings

45 Templar Place, Upper Rockridge

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A charming 3+ bedroom, 2.5 bath traditional in the desirable Upper Rockridge neighborhood. Updated kitchen & baths. Lovely front garden, large rear deck overlooks wooded garden with hot tub. Separate studio. Offered at \$595,000



54 El Camino Real, Claremont

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Fabulous Claremont traditional. Five bedrooms, four and one half baths including stylish master suite and separate au-pair/in-law. Country kitchen. Wonderful Bay views. Offered at \$1,375,000



191 St. James Drive, Piedmont

COMING SOON. Spacious, three-story Piedmont traditional. Four bedrooms, three and one half baths. Updated, eat-in kitchen. Gracious formal rooms, study on main level. Large family room opens level out to deck with hot tub. Offered at \$799,000

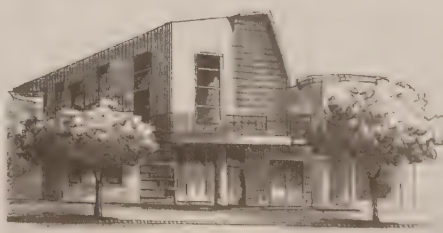


Karen Starr
Office: 339.0400/224
GRUBBCO.COM

The GRUBB Co.

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

★ ★ GRAND OPENING - NEW LOFTS - BERKELEY ★ ★ ★ OPEN HOUSE - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2001 NOON-5PM ★



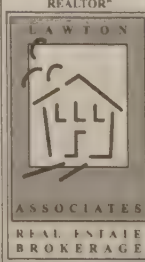
5 New Dramatic Lofts
3113 Shattuck Avenue
Starting @ \$249,000

Come see these innovative residential Lofts. Urban Loft living is truly fine with huge soaring ceilings and expansive industrial style windows that flood the space with light. There are 2 different models to choose from - 1 bedroom/1bath and 1+ bedroom/1 bath. Both feature quality finishes, secure gated and covered parking, private terraces and all the energy efficiencies of new construction. Centrally located and just steps to the Ashby BART Station. Also, close to freeways, AC Transit Bus Lines, U.C. Berkeley, The Berkeley Bowl, Downtown Berkeley, Downtown Oakland, Emeryville, and great coffee!

Ron Kriss, Partner ronkriss@jps.net 510-547-5970

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REALTOR"



Marienthals marvelous mates Dunning

Talk about auspicious beginnings, Kim and Barbara Marienthal met at a workshop called "Sex, Love and Intimacy," which both attended at the request of a mutual friend. Kim recalls "for me, it was love at first sight. I don't know about her." Six months later, they were married. Apt students!

"We came from such different worlds," says Kim. "I was Mr. Ecology who could care less about fashion," while Barbara was very focused on the aesthetic angle, coming from successful careers in fashion and art. "It's risky," Kim continues.

"It can add to your relationship, but be disastrous, (but) we actually have a lot of joy in our home."

Kim Marienthal invented the canvas "Save-A-Tree" shopping bag in 1971 as a fund-raiser for ecology groups. "I made a campaign of it," he says. He designed and printed the bags and traveled to promote them. The bags have become a symbol of the ecology movement, with its familiar green pine tree.

Kim moved from environmental activism to real estate in the early 1980s through the auspices of his friend Avram Goldman who had just opened Coldwell Banker's Berkeley office.

"I called him up one day and asked: 'Do you think I'd be good in real estate?'" Kim says. Goldman did think so, and his confidence in Kim was justified when Kim made 43 sales in his first year, a company record for sales by a rookie.

Kim recalls that, when he was starting out in real estate, Goldman "inspired me with his enthusiasm and perseverance."

He was both lucky and wise in his choice of mentor, as Goldman has since become national director of the National Association of Realtors and president and chief operating officer for Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, Northern California.

Barbara's beginning as part of the real estate team in 1995 was perhaps not quite as auspicious. The week that she started, Kim took off for Nepal, believe it or not, where he went trekking to the base camp at Mount Everest.

Kim seems to feel a little twinge of guilt when he remembers how much work he dumped on Barbara as she was starting out, but defends himself by claiming that his Himalayan vacation was just his way of expressing his unbounded confidence in Barbara.

Barbara, who has a bachelor of arts in economics and real estate investment from the University of Lodz in Poland, loves the latest phase of her career.

"Clients become friends for life," she says. "They become part of our community." The Marienthals are very excited about their association with Coldwell Banker.

The Marienthals point with pride to Coldwell Banker's involvement in their community. One example is the firm's commitment to the Christmas in April program.

Every year, Kim says, "volunteers from the office go out and help renovate homes for seniors."

Kim also serves on the board of directors of "A Traveling Jewish Theater in San Francisco," which he describes as "an ensemble that puts on very provocative plays."

In the past, he has also served on the homeless committee of the Berkeley Board of Realtors and on the board of directors of the National Institute of Art and Disabilities in Richmond.

The Marienthals find that, as a team, "we're able to cover more ground." Kim adds that "we can be much more accommodating of people's schedules" when working as a team, and are better able to "help (clients) through the morass of questions" that looms ahead when they enter the housing market.

"We feel we really do complement each other," says Kim.

"Kim is very good with numbers," Barbara says. This observation prompts Kim to point out that, therefore "I do a lot with investment property. Barbara and I both work on residential properties."

Then Barbara comes back to her point. "I am much more visual. I help with decorating and staging homes, bringing the flowers, vases and carpets." Kim adds that "she's very good at helping clients visualize how a home will look."

Having gained several investment properties for themselves, the Marienthals have gained "lots of remodeling experience" and this is another area where Kim's "sense of numbers" come into play.

"We know what remodels cost," says Kim. "That's critical for buyers."

They see themselves as "an international team." Having emigrated to the United States from Poland, Barbara is able to empathize with the immigrant experience of many of the team's clients.

"We have an incredible list of resources that we make available to clients," says Kim.

Included on it are hidden parks and waterfalls and little-known resources for kids, like the art pond.

Team Realty

By Rebecca Deepchandani



KIM AND BARBARA MARIENTHAL

grams at Totland. "When we drive people around (to see properties,) we point out all these attractions."

The couple has two young boys, and Barbara has a son attending college. They feel this helps them understand the needs both of growing and older families.

"In our community, there are a lot of older people who are downsizing," says Kim.

In addition to her talent for decorating, Barbara is also a skilled cook. "My kitchen is the biggest I have ever seen," she says. Among her specialties is cioppino, an Italian seafood soup.

She also makes Polish dishes, such as golabki (stuffed cabbage rolls,) pierogis (steamed meat-filled dumplings) and bigos.

To make bigos, a hunting stew, it is traditional to "throw in whatever you have." Barbara also prepares a tripe soup that Kim loves to joke about.

In addition to trekking, Kim enjoys sports like tennis, squash, skiing and kayaking. He also plays chess and backgammon. Both Marienthals love to travel.

"Right now, we're trying to skip out to the Mardi Gras" in New Orleans, they say. "We're really very personable people," says Barbara.

Kim and Barbara Marienthal can be reached at Coldwell Banker, 1495 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 94709, 510-486-1495 or 510-981-3036, www.cb-norcal.com.

FROM PAGE B1

asking for any time to approve inspections or financing. It is risky and should be done only by buyers with cash to close without a loan and who have had the property inspected before writing the contract.

Many sellers and their agents will not allow pre-sale inspections. Even if they do, it can get quite expensive to do inspections to have an offer rejected. But is the buyer asking for work to be done by the seller, or is buying "As Is"? Naturally, sellers prefer As Is; buyers, however, must be careful to know a property's problems before agreeing to this arrangement.

A lender's pre-approval letter, stating that the buyer has been checked and approved is *sine qua non* when there are multiple bids. In addition,

the type of loan and amount of down payment are significant items.

Although zero-down loans and a variety of programs are available, a conventional loan with at least 20 percent down and a short contingency (14 to 21 days) is viewed as stronger, making difficult for buyers with incomes, but without hordes of cash.

The deposit could also play a role. There might be two offers of \$600,000, with 20 percent down, on a home listed for \$525,000. If the deposit on one was \$5,000, and the other was \$25,000, the larger could be a positive. At the least, it would show the second buyer has the money and is willing to put it into escrow now.

A buyer who plans to live in the home will generally have the advantage over one who is buying it as an investment. As a buyer, who your agent is, and how he presents your offer, may be crucial. Professionals prefer to work with other professionals.

Choosing a local Realtor who is respected in the real estate community can often make a difference.

In multiple offer scenarios, there could have difficulty choosing between similar offers. Most buyers, however, come from a competent, professional to ferret out the most advantageous one. Buyers will have a greater chance of success if at the process from a Realtor's perspective. In the popular neighborhoods and price ranges, and in the market changes, only highly motivated buyers willing to structure their attractive offers will prevail.

For a copy of my previous articles, Multiple Offers and Competing Offers, visit www.re.com, or call me.

Don Dunning is a 21-year real estate veteran. He is a full-time Realtor and consultant with the net Realtors in Oakland, California (510) 531-7575, ext. 238.



Prudential California Realty

* Indicates Homes Being Held Open

OAKLAND/PIEDMONT



Hiller Masterpiece \$1,295,000
Panoramic views from a 3-level townhouse. 3BD/2.5BA, fabulous design!
Nancy Platford 510-845-0200

*** Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,295,000**
5352 Hilltop Crescent.
Magnificent renovation! Spacious 4BD/3BA traditional on oversized lot.
www.davidotero.com 510-339-9290

*** Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,200,000**
6150 Mazuela Dr. Stunning new 4BD/3.5BA home in tranquil setting. A must see!
Sandy Chiu 510-339-9290

*** First Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$925,000**
6935 Elverton Dr. Wonderful, elegant 4BD/3BA home with exceptional Bay views.
Howard Converse 510-339-9290

*** Claremont Hills \$699,000**
Open 2-4:30, 16 Slater Lane.
Brown shingled contemporary, superbly located. Walk to Claremont! Big bay view, 4BD/2BA + study.
Julie Lehman 510-845-0211

One Level Montclair \$549,000
Wonderful 3BD/2BA on one level. Bright/open floor plan. Large double lot. Close to parks.
Vickie or Aleo 510-428-0900

*** Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$499,000**
47 Sequoyah View Ct. Custom, one level, 5BD/2.5BA gem located on quiet cul-de-sac.
Ziggy Baranowski 510-339-9290

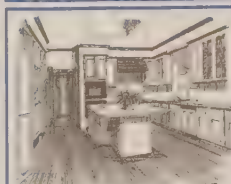
*** Open Sunday 1-5 \$449,000**
6821 Thornhill Dr. Stunning 2BD/1BA contemp. with parquet floors, fireplace, plus rm. and 4 decks.
Erik Johnson 510-339-9290

*** Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$439,000**
3477 Crane Way. Cozy 3+BD/1.5BA farm house on lg. lot near East Bay Regional Parks.
www.davidotero.com 510-339-9290

Just Like New! \$350,000
Great Price for the Value! Completely remodeled with an addition. Lots of granite and marble. Custom kitchen, island. Gated large yd. Close to Dunsuir House & Gardens, access to frwy.
Alice Wong-Roth 510-428-0900

Gorgeous \$285,000
3BD/2+BA Victorian, gated townhouse. 2-story, fireplace, secure!
Mary Dressler 510-339-9290

BERKELEY/ALBANY



*** Smart Contemporary \$850,000**
Open Sunday 1-4:00 pm, 6946 Bristol Dr. Built 1996, Berkeley address, Oakland legal. 3 levels of family living space, cook's kitchen, adjacent Great rm., formal dining rm., study, living rm., 4BD/4.5BA. Recreation rm., solarium, storage galore.
Nancy Taussig 510-845-0211, 986-9563

Views For Sale! \$625,000
Coming soon. A house with panoramic views of Bay, remodeled kitchen, hardwood floors and more!
Candice Economides 510-845-0200

*** Thousand Oaks 1st Open! \$599,000**
Open 1-4:30, 1559 Thousand Oaks. 4BD/3BA, 1797 sq.ft., living rm. with frplc, FDR, home office/den with built-ins, more!
Felicia Jenkins 510-526-5143

*** Berkeley Hills Grande Dame \$595,000**
Open Sunday 2-4, 1051 Keith. Meander up a waterfall garden to this grand home with a great Bay view. 4BD/1.5BA in 2200 sq.ft. of classic space.
Barbara Reynolds 510-287-9361 510-845-0200

*** Ocean View Charming \$445,000**
Open Sunday 2-4, 1700 7th. 4BD/2.5BA. 2200 sq.ft., den and wet bar, suitable for multi-use.
Terrence Jue 510-524-2526

Location Is Everything \$395,000
3BD, 1.5BA bungalow. Big yard, lots of parking, 2-car garage. Expansion potential. Near 4th St., No. Berkeley BART.
Camille Rogers 510-464-1013 510-845-0200

Beautiful Craftsman \$379,000
Near Solano Ave. This classic craftsman home has been lovingly maintained over the years. The ideal location is just minutes walk to Solano Ave., Marin School, shops and transportation. In addition to the 2BD/1BA, this home offers an eat-in kitchen, 2 car garage, basement and a big lot.
Carol Heath-Kim 510-527-9800

*** Affordable Albany! \$237,000**
Open 2-4, 717 Buchanan. Attractive 2BD/1BA, some upgrades, new paint, refinished hardwood flrs., great schools!
Rayne Palmer 510-644-5272

See Virtual Tour at: www.prudweb.com/Barbara Levy Only One Left \$220,000
Two extensively remodeled live/work condos with electrical, plumbing, seismic upgrades, parking, alarm systems, new kitchens and bathrooms, elegant features and much more. Each 1BD sold for \$220,000.
Barbara Levy 510-869-2786, 849-371

CONTRA COSTA

*** Natural Beauty Abounds \$540,000**
Open Sunday 12-4, 40 Los Altos Orinda. Terraced landscaping, 3-acre estate, 4+BD/4.5BA, quality design.
Wendy Kashiwa 510-845-0200

*** Charming Kensington \$500,000**
Open Sat/Sun 2-4, 257 Colgate 2BD/1BA, quiet street, hardwood flrs., French doors from living room to garden, patio, more!
Richard Benner 510-845-0200 510-845-0200

*** Open Sunday 2-4! \$310,000**
5218 Garvin Ave., Richmond. 3BD/1BA, covered patio, central heat, attached garage. Must see! Call Keith.
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RESIDENTIAL INCOME

Grand Lake Fourplex \$800,000
Elegant Mediterranean bungalow with spacious flats, hardwood floors, garages. Excl. condition, steps to garden, patio, more!
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Super Duper Duplex \$670,000
Best Berkeley location. Walk to BART, Fanny's and 4th St. 3BD/2BA owner's unit and 2BD/1BA second unit. Lights bright and move right in!
Gaby Olander 510-526-5143

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Residential corner lot in established neighborhood. Call at curb.
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Northbrae



Adorable Oakland Bungalow!

This two bedroom/one bath bungalow is a perfect starter home! Complete with built-ins, a cozy fireplace in the living room, a formal dining room and breakfast nook in the kitchen! There is also an extra room perfect for a home office or family room. The sunny backyard is great for gardening and play! Newly painted inside and out with refinished hardwood floors, this home is very reasonably priced. Offered at \$195,000

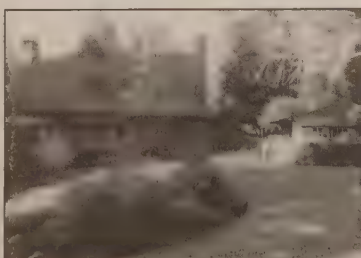
Charming Berkeley Duplex!

A duplex with a difference! Two spacious one bedroom units with wonderful details. Both feature hardwood floors, classic fireplaces and sunny adjoining yards. The front owner's unit has a recently remodeled custom kitchen complete with a classic Gaffers & Sattler range. The kitchen and laundry area feature Mexican paver floors for a warm look and easy maintenance. Both units have insulated roof and floor areas, and the front unit features an energy saving on-demand water heater. The fully fenced front yard offers computerized drip irrigation and is ready for a new organic garden. The detached oversized garage is only one year old, and the property offers plum, nectarine, peach, Myer lemon and Chinese apple pear trees! Offered at \$375,000

Anita Thede • Claude Delaubert • Maryann Heublein
Al Jamieson • Gail Crane

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Residence (510) 654-6878
nrothman@pacunion.com

This extraordinary home is reminiscent of an English Country Manor. Architecturally distinctive, superior craftsmanship is evident throughout the home. Outside, this splendid home with its slate roof, used brick siding and twin bricked chimney is set in beautiful grounds of one plus acres. Meticulously planted with lawns, redwood trees & mature shrubs, the gardens provide a true haven of peace & tranquility. A swimming pool & tennis court coupled with warm summer evenings common to the area, offer you the best of outdoor living in California.

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4 Bedrooms/2.5 Baths
Cheerful family room with brick fireplace and wet bar
Spacious living room leading out to fully landscaped garden
Updated kitchen
Gleaming hardwood floors
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PACIFIC UNION

Open Sunday 2-4:30



1350 - Irden Place, Oakland
An English cottage surrounded by enchanted gardens on a quiet cul-de-sac. Updated but retains the original charm and detail. Three bedrooms and two+ baths.
Offered at \$542,000

Mindy Scott
Office: 339.0400/215 The GRUBB Co.
Residence: 655.2460
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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

NEW LISTING!

Open Sunday February 25, 2001
2-4:30 pm



568 Crestmont Drive, Oakland

This wonderful home boasts designer paint choices and crown moldings. It has three-plus bedrooms, three baths and a terrific family room which opens out to a large level and private garden. Nearly new interior and exterior paint, kitchen appliances, and family room carpet.

Offered at \$450,000



Leslie Gordon

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Space Reservations: **MONDAY, 12 Noon** Copy Requiring Typesetting: **MONDAY, 5 pm**

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Offered at \$542,000

Mindy Scott
Office: 339.0400/215 The GRUBB Co.
Residence: 655.2460
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Open Sunday
2:00-4:30

Maxwell Park Charmer!



3051 Modesto Avenue

Charming bungalow located on one of Maxwell Park's nicest streets. Well maintained home with hardwood floors, large eat-in kitchen, stone fireplace and two plus rooms for den and workroom. Includes:

- Three ++ bedrooms/ 1 1/4 baths
- Lovely bay window in living room
- Formal dining room with built-in china hutch

\$298,000

Rosie Nysaether

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NEW LISTING • PIEDMONT
Open Sun • Feb 25 • 2-4:30 PM



415 Moraga Avenue

Traditional style with natural woods in living room and dining room. Three-plus bedrooms, two full baths. Office or den space.

Offered at \$545,000

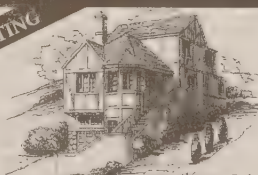
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OPEN SUNDAY • FEB 25 • 2-4:30 PM

NEW LISTING



Fabulous San Francisco Bay views!

6273 Ruthland Road • Oakland

Newer construction Tudor home. Four bedrooms, including large master suite, three and a half baths, elevator and intercom system.
Great Montclair location.

Offered at \$689,000



Ashley Wilcox O'Neill

Senior Sales Associate
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PACIFIC UNION

Sequoiah Golf Course Setting!

Open Sunday • Feb 25 • 1-4 PM



580 Elysian Fields Dr., Oakland

The elements of light, outlook and floor plan create an easy, peaceful environment in this custom built ranch style home. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths (including master suite) are found on one level. The approx. 2375 sq. ft. includes a gorgeous family room w/vaulted ceiling, excellent window placement, hardwood floors and a fireplace. Some additional amenities include electric skylights, air conditioning, a 2nd fireplace and more.

Offered at \$529,000

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1 Sea View Avenue

This gracious English Manor house is located on one of Montclair's most prestigious streets. Majestic trees, approximately two-thirds acre of manicured gardens, cobblestone paths and pristine pool surround this historic family estate.

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- 4++ Bedrooms/4+ baths • Master bedroom with fireplace •
- Updated kitchen with deck • Dining room with fireplace •
- Family room • Music room •

Priced Upon Request.

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-and-
Charlotte Boyle

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Should you buy a home that's back on the market?

Suppose you've been looking for months for a home. Perhaps you've made offers but none have been accepted. Finally your agent calls to tell you that a house you bid on and sold to another buyer is back on the market. You have another chance to buy it.

You should be excited, but instead you're reluctant to make another offer.

The listing looked far more attractive to you when it was new on the market.

While you didn't relish making an offer in competition, it was encouraging to know that other buyers wanted the home too.

Now, without the competition, you wonder if the listing is a good buy.

Psychology plays a big part in most home sales. Buyers like to know they're getting a good house.

There's no bigger validation of a listing's desirability than the market itself. Multiple offers are the home buyers' stamp of approval.

When a listing is back on the mar-

ket (or BOM), it usually means that the property sold but that the deal fell apart.

Or the property could have been temporarily withdrawn from the market.

Before you make an offer on such a listing, find out why it's back on the market. The most common reason for a home to come back on the market is that defects are discovered during the buyer's inspections.

If this is the case, ask the listing agent if you can see copies of the reports.

Find out if the seller is willing to negotiate on the inspection-related issues. You don't want to buy a home that has serious structural problems.

But if the problems are correctable, and you can negotiate a good deal with the seller, it may be worth your while to proceed.

Now that the real estate market is softening in some areas, there are more homes coming back on the market simply because the

In March, some home sale transactions fell apart because the buyers lost a good portion of their down payment money when stock prices dropped.

buyer had a change of heart.

There may be nothing at all wrong with the house. Following the precipitous drop in the stock market in March of this year, some home sale transactions fell apart because the buyers lost a good portion of their down payment money when stock prices dropped.

Some buyers, whose net worth was severely diminished by the steep decline in the NASDAQ, backed out of deals to buy expensive properties and put their home buying plans on hold.

A listing that is BOM may offer

a great opportunity. Often these homes sell for less the second time around.

One of the reasons for this is that it can be difficult for a listing agent to rekindle buyer enthusiasm in a listing when it's re-marketed.

Buyers and their agents tend to focus on the new listings.

Also a stigma that something is wrong with the property, however erroneous it may be, can cause buyers to stay away. Recently a home sale transaction fell apart in the Crocker Highlands section of Oakland.

COMING SOON



Claremont Traditional

Light filled, utterly charming two story home with 3+ bedrooms and 2+ baths, enclosed sun porch, home office, French doors open onto large private backyard, snip of a view from master bedroom. And, of course, walk to coffee, shops, and tennis.


\$689,000

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THORNWALL Properties


OPEN SUNDAY • FEB 25 • 1-4:00 pm

**3045 Frye Street
Oakland**



Unique and private home with picturesque SF Bay views. This charming and comfortable home is nestled in a sunny country-like setting. A delightful Mediterranean-style garden and patio encircles the home and is a gardener's paradise. Also features a separate workshop/studio. Spectacular sunsets are an added bonus. Don't miss this special home!

Offered at \$435,000



Diane Earl McCan
Senior Sales Consultant
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PACIFIC UNION

Open Sunday 2-4:30

New Listing!




839 Rosemount Rd, Crocker Highlands
This classic Italian style home, was built in 1924 by builder Alex C. Weiben as his personal residence and boasts distinguished architectural details and style.
Offered at \$679,000
Mavis Delacroix
Office: 339.0400/205
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A
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Gaby Olander
(510) 273-9169

We are fortunate in having two CRS designees in our North Berkeley office: Francine Di Palma and Gaby Olander. Francine and Gaby have a history of demonstrated success. Francine is a member of our international chairman's Circle-Gold award for 2000 as well as Prudential's Director's Club and Leading Edge Society. Gaby has a record of over 450 transactions and has been an agent for more than 20 years.

The designation CRS - Certified Residential Specialist - is one that only 4% of all Realtors and Realtor-Associates have earned. To obtain this designation, one must have successfully completed advanced educational courses which equips the agent with distinctive expertise to get the job done skillfully and worry-free as possible.

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Call Francine and Gaby at 510-849-3711.

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3 bedrooms, 2.5 bath, light, bright. Fabulous master suite. One year new-spacious lot, many upgrades. Largest lot in development. No Mello Roos! Only \$429,000.


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Vacant, upslope lot in Oakland. Tax records say lot zoned for multiple units. Fabulous view of city and bridges. Buyer to participate in 1031 exchange. \$89,000.

Thinking of Selling your Property and making another investment? Phone Donnaluci today for more information.

(510) 523-2378 (523-BEST)
donnaluci@aol.com

Real Estate For Sale



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SAN FRANCISCO**

We would like to express our ongoing appreciation to our East Bay clients and the real estate community for their buyer and seller referrals to our San Francisco office.

Jim Hedges
Manager/Realtor
(415) 921-0113 S.F. office
(510) 287-9001 East Bay office

Jim lives in Berkeley and has been serving the East Bay & SF for 19 years. Please call Jim for your real estate needs.

Prudential California Realty

If you are interested in a career in Real Estate, call Jim Hedges

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE BUYERS, SELLERS, FELLOW REALTORS, TITLE COMPANIES, LENDERS, SUPPORT STAFF, CONTRACTORS AND TRADES PEOPLE, FOR 10 GREAT YEARS! IN REAL ESTATE.

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E-mail: HarborBay@hbrhomes.com • www.hbrhomes.com

Oakland

\$25,000 Hillmont Drive, 1222 Hillmont, Oakland, CA 94612. Great for 1st time buyers. Call 814-4891.

PENDING

\$139,000 1026 Pine St. Charming Victorian Cottage in West Oakland. Needs lots of work but much is original. Main floor has 2 bedrooms. Upstairs has 3 additional rooms. One and a half baths. Large basement. Excellent opportunity for 1st time buyer who loves Victorians. Kathy Hirsch (510) 814-4706

\$139,000 1428 3rd St., Oakland Duplex! Two-2 bedroom units. Needs lots of work, great South Prescott location! As-is sale. Kathy Hirsch (510) 814-4706

\$179,000 1366 E 34th St. Victorian loft-style living! This Victorian home has a large room with top quality hardwood floors, high ceilings to be finished, deck & garden with raised planter beds. Great location on Oakland/Emeryville border. Kathy Hirsch (510) 814-4706

PENDING

\$185,000 1122 Wood St. Victorian cottage in up and coming West Oakland neighborhood. Needs some work. Three bedrooms, 1 bath, formal dining room and basement. Close to new Union Train Station Development and freeway (BART). Kathy Hirsch (510) 814-4706

\$349,500 2501 23rd Ave. Three units total. Four Bedroom house with two 1 bedroom units in rear. Central East Oakland. Rear units leased at \$825,000 each. Front house perfect for owner-occupant. Pie shaped lot. Kathy Hirsch (510) 814-4706

\$350,000 3154 Arbonne St., Charming Spanish Mediterranean nestled in a lovely Upper Laurel hillside neighborhood! Two

Bedrooms, 1 bath, formal dining room, hardwood floors and a basement, a bonus room. Built in 1920s. Great for 1st time buyers. Call 814-4891.

PENDING

\$401,000 4010 Malcom Ave. Mediterranean with Spanish tile floors. Three bedrooms, 2 baths, kitchen, living room and dining room. Bonus room. Call 815-4875.

\$695,000 6700 Liggert Dr. 1st floor all with views of mile and three formal dining room, master bedroom, hardwood floors, and new kitchen. Call Russ & Linda Grant (510) 814-4833

PENDING

\$939,000 6835 Oakwood Drive. Fabulous contemporary home with architecture throughout. Formal dining room, gourmet kitchen, views. Three bedrooms, 2.5 baths, suite with fireplace and private cellar, private gym. Don-Peaz (510) 814-4833

San Leandro

\$275,000 2523 Gallion Rd. 1st OPEN SUN 2-4. View of level townhome - 1000 sq. ft. Spacious garden view from living area. Two bedrooms, 2 baths, carport and garage. Community pool and spa. Russ & Linda Grant (510) 814-4833

\$325,000 14418 Outcrop. 2 bedroom 2.5 bath. Sagittary two 1-car garages. Community pool, tennis court. Close to transit. Terry Lee (510) 814-4842

WEEKLY SALES

AMERICA

30 Adams St - \$400,000
42 Ball Ln - \$400,000
Hollens Bl - \$375,000
Way #211 - \$200,000
Vista Av - \$232,000
Bridge Dr - \$495,000
Coc Dr - \$281,000
Hill Av - \$190,000
Hark Ln - \$395,000
College Av - \$315,000
Shore Dr - \$450,000
Wood Ave - \$488,000
Wood Isle - \$579,000
Ln St - \$311,000
Wood Rd - \$400,000
Northwood Dr - \$604,000
Hollens Blvd Rd - \$816,000
Hill Ln - \$433,000
Hollens Ln - \$412,500
Hollens Ln - \$315,000
Hollens Ln - \$397,000
Hollens Ln - \$785,000
Hollens Ln - \$200 - \$200,000
Hollens Ln - \$156,000
Hollens Ln - \$232,500
Hollens Ln - \$340,000
Hollens Ln - \$657,000
Hollens Ln - \$375,000

ANY

Key Route Bl - \$410,000
Pierce St #432 - \$186,000

KEY

10th St - \$217,000
Acton St - \$345,000
Blake St - \$453,000
Channing Wy - \$340,000
Curtis St - \$435,000
Dohr St - \$426,000
Dwight Wy - \$174,000
Mendocino Av - \$875,000
Mendocino Av - \$1,200,000
Prince St - \$875,000
Roosevelt Av - \$290,000
San Lorenzo Av - \$370,000
Shasta Rd - \$450,000
Virginia St - \$393,000
Wheeler St - \$385,000
Woolsey St - \$485,000
Yosemite Rd - \$717,500

ERITO

Glen Mawr Av - \$350,000

1539 Kearney St - \$286,000
1215 Lawrence St - \$425,000
5308 MacDonald Av - \$406,500
5500 MacDonald Av - \$275,000
5611 MacDonald Av - \$243,000
2608 Monte Vista Av - \$408,000
1518 Norvell St - \$289,000
860 Seaview Dr - \$525,000
825 Shevlin Dr - \$600,000
3360 Yosemite Av - \$453,000

EL SOBRANTE

25 Cavoretto Ln - \$390,000
1160 Kelvin Rd - \$267,500
1299 Kilcrease Cr - \$265,000
3942 La Cresenta Rd - \$220,000
5159 La Honda Rd - \$315,000
726 Santa Maria Rd - \$185,000

EMERYVILLE

4280 Adeline St - \$265,000
8 Admiral Dr - \$240,000
6363 Christie Av #150 - \$270,000
6363 Christie Av #615 - \$310,000
4323 Essex St - \$289,000

KENSINGTON

531 Beloit Av - \$435,000
258 Colgate Av - \$645,000
106 York Av - \$650,000

OAKLAND

2017 108th Av - \$240,000
2542 10th Av - \$400,000
1717 11th St - \$200,000
2446 24th Av - \$220,000
2005 36th Av - \$165,000
928 39th St - \$210,000
436 48th St - \$410,000
671 55th St - \$284,000
479 60th St - \$470,000
866 61st St - \$205,000
2569 63rd Av - \$215,000
2406 65th Av - \$237,000
3424 66th Av - \$177,000
2500 68th Av - \$170,000
3446 68th Av - \$261,000
1075 69th Av - \$165,000
2016 7th Av - \$235,000
1363 80th Av - \$151,000
2545 83rd Av - \$197,000
1429 98th Av - \$182,000
7 Bay Forest Pl - \$815,000
5291 Belvedere St - \$333,000
2908 Best Av - \$318,000
1801 Brandon St - \$752,000

5940 Buena Vista Av - \$1,255,000
8706 Burr St - \$325,000
320 Caldecott Ln #232 - \$215,000
6449 Chabot Rd - \$733,000
6860 Charing Cross Rd - \$900,000
2601 Chelsea Dr - \$500,000
3135 Coolidge Av - \$273,000
455 Crescent St - \$150,000
5420 Dover St - \$295,000
5822 Dover St - \$335,000
8056 Earl St - \$272,000
2521 East 23rd St - \$165,000
2944 Eastman Av - \$298,000
1015 Elsinore Av - \$466,000
3701 Elston Av - \$400,000
84 Eucalyptus Rd - \$795,000
4636 Fair Av - \$270,000
6117 Fairlane Dr - \$705,000
5414 Genoa St - \$150,000
217 Ghormley Av - \$155,000
5609 Golden Gate Av - \$665,000
8338 Golf Links Rd - \$234,000
81 Graeagle - \$460,000
2512 Grande Vista Av - \$230,000
416 Haddon Rd - \$322,500
1024 Harvard St - \$268,000
2663 Hickory St - \$268,000
401 Hiller Dr - \$585,000
551 Jean St #309 - \$187,000
3529 Jordan Rd - \$525,000
3707 Kansas St - \$208,000
6101 Lawton Av - \$651,000
2320 Leimert Bl - \$636,000
4117 Lyon Av - \$200,000
2129 Magellan Dr - \$429,000
1056 Mandana Bl - \$705,000
1955 Manzanita Dr - \$880,000
3708 Market St - \$285,000
903 Martin Luther King Wy - \$212,000
4012 Maybelle Av - \$424,500
2626 Minna Av - \$253,000
3134 Minna Av - \$240,000
2860 Modesto Av - \$357,000
11025 Moman St - \$450,000
5876 Ocean View Dr - \$580,000
4695 Reinhardt Dr - \$431,500
6192 Rutland Rd - \$940,000
3815 San Juan St - \$200,000
4030 Santa Rita St - \$301,000
7243 Sayre Dr - \$355,000
8888 Skyline Bl - \$375,000
4300 St. Andrews Rd - \$460,000
7602 Surrey Ln - \$520,000
5817 Tevis St - \$150,000
4536 Tompkins Av - \$280,000
34 Turtle Creek St - \$350,500
325 Vernon St - \$200,000
85 Vernon St - \$174,500
9430 Walnut St - \$165,000
7820 Weld St - \$155,000

PIEDMONT

111 Alta Av - \$800,000
80 Fairview Av - \$975,000
430 Pala Av - \$625,000
1 Parkside Dr - \$525,000
231 San Carlos Av - \$625,000

RICHMOND

612 16th St - \$160,000
618 34th St - \$280,000
621 35th St - \$213,500
224 3rd St - \$155,000
5818 Bayview Av - \$188,000
2343 Brooks Av - \$189,000
1328 Club Ln - \$284,500
5571 Country View Dr - \$465,000
2019 Grant Av - \$174,000
969 Humboldt St - \$177,000
2425 Humphrey Av - \$199,500
724 Kern St - \$225,000
2550 Lowell Av - \$200,000
936 McLaughlin St - \$288,000
3727 Painted Pony Rd - \$390,000
2544 Roosevelt Av - \$169,000
4001 Roosevelt Av - \$250,000
6200 Rosalind Av - \$260,000
1410 San Joaquin St - \$155,000
360 South 25th St - \$170,000
249 South 39th St - \$210,000
512 Tewksbury Av - \$215,000

SAN LEANDRO

1757 143rd Av - \$266,000
974 Alice Av - \$282,000
334 Aloha Dr - \$295,000
951 Ark Dr - \$263,000
13517 Aurora Dr #123 - \$220,000
1638 Boxwood Av - \$333,000
425 Broadmoor Bl - \$385,000
16083 Cambrian Dr - \$335,000
16809 Carriage Ln - \$205,000
1146 Coburn Ct - \$250,000
15615 Cranbrook St - \$300,000
541 Diehl Av - \$330,000
455 Dolores Av - \$299,000
15051 Edgemoor St - \$270,000
2190 Estabrook Cr - \$270,000
499 Estudillo Av #109 - \$208,000
15225 Farnsworth St - \$285,000
834 Fulton Av - \$332,000
869 Glen Dr - \$470,000
1599 Hays St - \$175,000
15065 Hesperian Bl #22 - \$165,000
992 Hutchings Dr - \$210,000
1431 Kelly Av - \$251,000
15310 Laverne Dr - \$350,000
14589 Nassau Rd - \$240,000

14410 Outrigger Dr - \$235,000
1217 Purdue St - \$270,000
16307 Ria Dr - \$240,000
14736 Saturn Dr - \$242,000
430 Pala Av - \$625,000
860 Superior Av - \$520,000
686 Sybil Av - \$339,000
15065 Thois St - \$259,000
1440 Thrush Av #D - \$187,000
350 Williams St - \$274,000
399 Woodland Pk - \$452,000

SAN LORENZO

553 Cornell St - \$340,000
924 Elgin St - \$174,000
761 Galway Dr - \$270,000
155 Loma Verde Dr - \$198,000
1670 Via Lucas - \$300,000
969 Humboldt St - \$177,000
64 Via Verde - \$285,000
89 Via Verde - \$315,000
16056 Wagner St - \$240,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 29
LOWEST PRICE: \$156,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$816,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$395,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$399,621

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST PRICE: \$186,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$410,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$298,000

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 17
LOWEST PRICE: \$174,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,200,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$426,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$490,029

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 11
LOWEST PRICE: \$243,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$600,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$406,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$387,318

F. S. S. S. S. S.

TOTAL SALES: 6

See SALES on page B8

Coldwell Banker

Some people think just any real estate company will do. Others expect more.

PIEDMONT & OAKLAND • 510.339.4700



\$799,000
Bright and sunny 2+BD/2BA, all redone. Big lot, some bay view and lots of privacy and potential.
Call for appointment.
Jack Brenneman

\$349,000
New Listing! Two bedroom home and one room cottage. Remodeled kitchen, decks, fireplace, hardwood garage. Call for appointment.
Victor Fierro

FIRST OPEN

\$499,000
Bright and sunny 2+BD/2BA, all redone. Big lot, some bay view and lots of privacy and potential.
Call for appointment.
Evelyn Walker

OPEN SUNDAY



\$419,000
Laurel Duplex with Bay View. 2 bedroom & 1 bedroom units, upstairs remodeled, frplc & hwd floors, wonderful bay view, garden & 2-car garage. Open 2-4:30 p.m.
Victor Fierro

\$449,000
Brights View Home. Clean lines, one owner home well maintained. Split-level design, light-filled, 1600 sq. ft. 2-car attached garage, appl., 3BD/1BD. Open 2-4:30 p.m.
Rinchel Bailor

LOTS FOR SALE

\$650,000
Superior lot, mostly level with design approved plans.
David Eckert

\$259,000
Oakland/Berkeley Hills Lot. Located in million \$\$\$ homes area. Create your dream home. Survey plus topo on file.
George Karsant

\$399,000
1600 sq. ft. lot w/ tentative approval to be subdivided into 3 lots. Design review approval to build. Call for details & conditions.
Darcy Diamantine

\$89,000
Montclair. Two lots. Great opportunity.
David Eckert

COLDWELL BANKER

PREVIEWS
EXCEPTIONAL PROPERTIES

\$1,695,000
COMING SOON! Enjoy magnificent views of San Francisco, downtown Oakland the Golden Gate bridge and the San Francisco bay from this luxurious, architect-designed Mediterranean style home. Newly built on a private cul-de-sac; approx. 4,200 sq. ft. of living space. 4+BD/4.5BA, FLR and DR, Family room, cook's kitchen, breakfast room, library & large game room. Level front yard, terraces & a level back yard.
Dian Hymer



\$999,000
New Price! If you have not seen this exciting new home, wait no longer. A great value! Open Sun 2-4:30
Jack Brenneman

COLDWELL BANKER
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

BERKELEY • 510.486.1495



\$879,000
ON THE CHEST OF A MILL. JUST LISTED! Gracious "traditional style" contemporary, built in 1989, with open, sunny floor plan. 4 BR, 3 BA, 2 fireplaces, 2 family rooms, and formal dining. Master suite on second floor. Decks at yard level and off of 2nd story. 3 car garage. Easy commute to SF or Oakland



\$699,000
ENGLISH COUNTRY COTTAGE IN NORTH BERKELEY. Hugh Golden Gate views. Every aspect, and spacious too! 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, hugh brick fireplace, master suite on lower level, formal dining, wood floors, decks. This property is gorgeous and unique!

OPEN HOUSE

\$879,000
13538 Campus Dr. 4+BR, 3 BA home built in 1989.
Rita Zwerdling

BY APPOINTMENT

\$1,795,000
12 SUPERS BERKELEY UNITS. Lovely traditional 1920's building. 100% of ownership gem! 12 spacious units in prime loc., just steps from UC! Solar panels, some parking, great income, upside potential. Call for more info.

\$299,000
FABULOUS WEST BERKELEY CONDO, LIKE NEW. JUST LISTED! One of two beautifully designed condos rebuilt with top quality materials and workmanship. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, soaring ceilings, light-filled spaces. Totally rebuilt & remodeled, new kitchens, foundation, wiring, plumbing, and more! Super location, easy access to 4th Street shops, restaurants and SF commute.

\$390,000
SECOND FABULOUS WEST BERKELEY CONDO, LIKE NEW. JUST LISTED! This one has 2 bedrooms, 1 bath on the top floor, plus a separate, exterior access 1 bedroom, 1 bath. High ceilings, light-filled spaces. Totally rebuilt & remodeled, new kitchens, foundation, wiring and more! Super location, easy access to 4th Street shops, restaurants and SF commute.

\$339,000
SUNNY EL CERRITO CHARMER. NEW LISTING! Sunny 2 bedroom, 1 bath opens to charming private garden. Large separate studio/workshop plus a 1 car garage!
\$299,000
YOUR BERKELEY DREAM BUNGALOW. NOW VACANT! 2 bedrooms, 1 bath with formal dining. Fine original details. Modern upgrades including remodel kitchen & breakfast bar. Sweet backyard w/water garden & fruit trees. Detached garage and loads of storage.

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www.cbnorcal.com

Sales

FROM PAGE B7

LOWEST PRICE: \$185,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$390,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$273,750

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$240,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$310,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$270,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$274,800

REDWOOD CITY

TOTAL SALES: 3

LOWEST PRICE: \$435,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$650,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$645,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$576,667

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 84
LOWEST PRICE: \$150,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,255,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$370,613

PITTSBURG

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$525,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$975,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$625,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$710,000

RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 22
LOWEST PRICE: \$155,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$465,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$228,068

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 36
LOWEST PRICE: \$165,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$520,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$287,583

SAN JUAN

TOTAL SALES: 8

LOWEST PRICE: \$174,000

HIGHEST PRICE: \$340,000

AVERAGE PRICE: \$265,250

This list was compiled by TitleTech of Oakland which obtains weekly records from the county recorder's office.

Questions regarding this information and any requests for additional listings and services provided by TitleTech should be directed to Bud Gorham at 510-568-7233 or TitleNotes@aol.com.

Prudential California Realty Welcomes Kimberly Welch

To the North Berkeley Office



Kimberly Welch
510 273 9002

Kimberly is a native of the Bay Area and a UC Berkeley Alumna. She has seven years of sales and marketing experience where she is always focused on results.

Feel free to contact Kimberly at 510 273 9002 or come by the office at 1539 Shattuck Ave. in the North Shattuck business district



Prudential
California Realty

1539 Shattuck Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94709
510 849 3711

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Yes Leila, please send me information on planning for my retirement.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

DAYTIME PHONE _____

6946 Bristol Drive
(Berkeley address, Oakland legal)

Entertain family and friends in this spacious kitchen, adjacent deck and Great Room which look out to the eastern hills. Built in 1996, this smart contemporary has four bedrooms, four bathrooms, a powder room, formal dining room, living room, study/office, recreation room, solarium, three fireplaces, and a two-car attached garage.

Offered at \$850,000

Nancy Taussig, Realtor
510-986-9563

Prudential
California Realty
510-845-0211

OPEN SUNDAY • February 25 • 1-4:00 p.m.



Gorgeous Grandlake Traditional
488 Fairbanks Avenue, Oakland

Located between Grand and Lakeshore Avenues

this fine home features:

3+ Bedrooms/2+ baths

Living room with fireplace and built-ins

Updated kitchen

2-car detached garage

Offered at \$469,000

JEFFREY HIMMEL
Senior Sales Associate

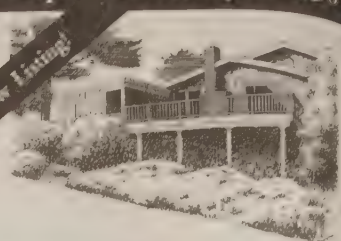
Bus: (510) 339-6460 ext. 307

Visit us at www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

Open Sunday 2-4:30

New Listing!



58 Buckeye Ave., Upper Rockridge
A home for today! Striking city and Bay views, floor plan, dramatically remodeled, exciting new three plus bedrooms, two and one half bath and out. Near Hillcrest School.
Offered at \$619,000
Sandra Vogl
Office: 339 0400/216
GRUBBCO.COM

The GRUBBCO

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

Open Sunday 2-4:30

New Listing!



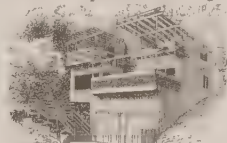
1225 Grand View Drive, Oakland
Perched on a knoll in the Oakland/Berkeley hills, this three bedroom, two and one half bath contemporary home with panoramic Bay views.
Offered at \$1,195,000
John Karnay
Office: 339.0400/230
GRUBBCO.COM

The GRUBBCO

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

"I MARKET YOUR HOME LIKE IT'S MY OWN"

JUST LISTED! 6821 Thornhill Drive
You're invited to inspect this stunning contemporary.



Sunday Open House
February 25th • 1-5 pm
I look forward to meeting you!



ERIK JOHNSON

Voice Mail (510) 869-4246

Pager (510) 721-4252

Email: erik.johnson@pruweb.com

Open Sunday 2-4:30

New Listing!

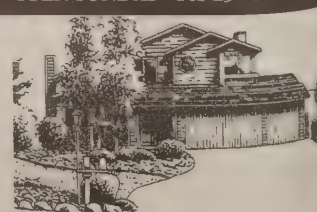


6133 Estates Drive, Montclair
Piedmont side of Montclair estate with mature tree and Bay view set on over 1/2 acre. Lovely colonial style. Five bedrooms, four baths, pool and more.
Offered at \$1,195,000
Elizabeth Dickson
Office: 339.0400/218
Residence: 849.0801
GRUBBCO.COM

The GRUBBCO

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

OPEN SUNDAY • Feb 25 • 2-4:30 PM



13778 Campus Drive • Oakland

Situated in Ridgmont, this 4 bedroom/3 bath contemporary home discriminating buyer dramatic canyon and bay vistas, extra room areas and a perfect floor plan for easy living or grand entertaining approximately .66 level acres.

Offered at \$929,000

ROBYN MOHR, CRS

Broker Associate

Bus: 510-334-6460 x310

website: www.robynmoehr.com

Email: robyn@robynmoehr.com

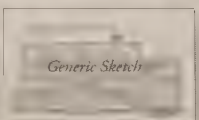


PACIFIC UNION

Your complete Real Estate Resource.



New Listing!
5512 MacDonald, El Cerrito
\$299,000
Open Sat/Sun 2/24-25 1-4:30pm



New Tri-plex Listing!
3238-42-44 Santa Clara Ave.,
El Cerrito \$429,000
Open Sun 2/25 2-4pm



New Listing!
829 Santa Fe, Albany
\$415,000
Open Sun 2/25 1-4pm



New Listing!
3128 Deseret Dr., Richmond
\$275,000
Open Sun 2/25 2-4pm

Open Sunday 2/25

2/1 1404 Henry #4, Berkeley 2-4:30pm \$319,000
3+/2 13 Marchant Court, Kensington 2-4pm \$865,000

By Appointment

Berk, 2/1 Cozy adorable starter, new paint, hwd floors \$199,000
Berk, 3+/1 Vintage Craftsman, lots of windows \$595,000
Berk, Prime Commercial 1742 Solano Ave, lease, or buy @ \$1,950,000
Emeryville, 1+/1 Sophisticated remodel, custom work \$270,000
Oakland, 2/1 sun-filled remodel, charming split-level \$159,000

LOTS & LAND

Berkeley, 0 La Loma at Cedar \$395,000
Oakland, Indian Way \$89,000

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Berkeley, 2500 Hillegass, 19 Units \$1,950,000
Berkeley, Grant x Vine, 2 Spacious flats \$695,000

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3 bedrooms/ 2.5 baths
Including master suite with deck & views
Living room with fireplace
Formal dining room
Eat-in kitchen
Separate family room

Offered at \$638,000

ROBYN MOHR, CRS

Broker Associate

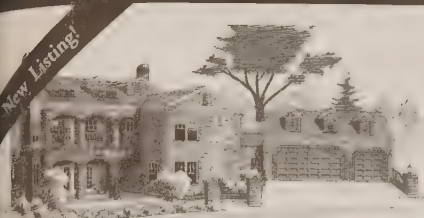
Bus: 510-334-6460 x310

website: www.robymohr.com

Email: robyn@robymohr.com

PACIFIC UNION

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5678 La Salle Avenue, La Salle Estates

Enjoy spectacular sunsets and commanding views of the Bay, bridges and SF from this exquisite architect designed masterpiece. Elegantly handcrafted with custom-milled woodwork and state of the art electronics, this five bedroom, five bath home is reminiscent of the quality and style of a traditional home built in the early 1900's.

Offered at \$3,400,000

John Karnay

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966 SAN PABLO AVE, ALBANY

NEW LISTING

Sweeping Bay Views
and Privacy

193 FLORENCE IN UPPER ROCKRIDGE

This beautiful one-level custom-designed home with private setting offers breathtaking views of the Bay Bridge, Golden Gate Bridge and San Rafael Bridge. Sited on 1/3 acre, this 7-year old home on level lot allows easy access to the living quarters. World-class views from living room with fireplace and built-in bookshelves open to private courtyard. Beautiful sunlit kitchen and adjoining dining room have panoramic bay views. 3+ bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths. Home set back with private drive, mature gardens and courtyard. 2-car garage with interior access. Close to shops, schools, public transportation and easy freeway access.

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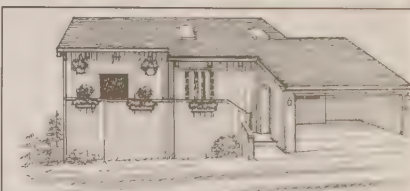
342 Highland Ave., Piedmont, CA

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30



55 BAY FOREST DRIVE.
\$899,000

Dramatic custom contemporary with So. Bay view. Approximately 3400sqft with 3-4-BD, 4BA, and family room. Elegant master suite, gourmet kitchen. Highest Quality throughout!
Wendy Callaghan
ext. 237



6705 OAKWOOD DRIVE.....\$599,000

Just Listed! Spacious, light-filled contemporary with great canyon. Marble, granite, hardwood, 4 Bedrooms, 2.5 baths, master room. Big decks!
Mary Neuberger 530-4148



3834 WOODRUFF AVENUE.....\$455,000

Sparcling Glenview bungalow, 3BD/2BA, French doors to lovely yard, hardwood, tile, original details, finished attic, playhouse, WOW!
Katie Meadow ext. 288



4834 ALLENDALE.....\$259,000

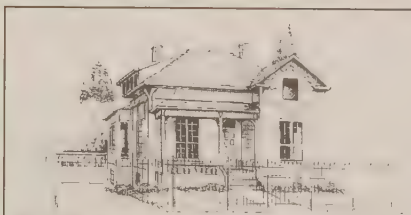
Maxwell Park - charming 2BD/1BA, gleaming hardwood floors, formal dining room, basement for storage, large level yard with patio, attached garage
Kate Phillips 436-4100



325 LENOX AVENUE #207.....\$162,000

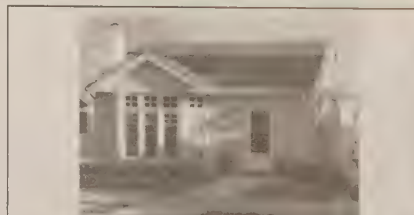
1 ST Open! 1/1 Spacious floor plan, good kitchen, lovely deck, and quiet side of building. Near BART, Lake Merritt, all transportation to SF. A must see!
Patsy Buhler ext. 238

BY APPOINTMENT



GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR OWNER/OCCUPANT\$525,000

Vacant Duplex! Large finished basement, new foundation, garages. Upgrades, 3BD/1BA unit and 1BD/1BA unit.
Barbara Roessler ext. 264



MAXWELL PARK.....\$399,000

Fabulous 3+BD with family room and bonus room, gorgeous remodeled kitchen, liardwood floors, master bedroom with romantic deck, landscaped yard and more!
Kate Phillips 436-4100

A LOVELY HOME WITH A LOVELY VIEW.....\$359,000

One level 2 bedroom, 2 bath unit in Sequoyah Heights. Great kitchen, upgrades, fireplace. HOA amenities, pool and clubhouse.
Barbara Roessler ext. 264

DON'T MISS THIS ONE!.....\$295,000

Charming 2 bedroom. Freshly painted interior, sunny and bright rooms. Hardwood floors, fireplace, fenced yard and garage. Close to shops and transportation.
Nancy Novick ext. 254

3212 ADELIN.....\$199,500

Move in condition! Two-story with 2BD/1BA, living room, dining room, remodeled kitchen. Downstairs has separate 1 BD unit. One car garage. Super value.
Frank Hennefer 654-6461

LAND

THREE CONTIGUOUS UPSLOPE LOTS.....\$90,000

Minutes from Montclair Village with partial Bay and lush canyon views these three lots are a great development opportunity. Please call for more information.
Carol Robbiano ext. 292

TWO MARVELOUS UPSLOPE LOTS.....\$79,000

These two upslope lots are just minutes from Montclair Village. The tranquil setting and lovely Oak trees add to the beauty of this area. Think about a conu-non driveway for two homes. Lots to be sold as a package.
Carol Robbiano ext. 292

INCOME PROPERTIES



CHINA HILL.....\$1,295,000

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Settled well maintained 4 br. home in El Cerrito Hills. Additional room can be used as 5th bedroom or office. Bay views, formal living room, family room, upgraded kitchen, hwd floors.



Open Sun. 2 - 4

Herman Sun 559-2929

2534 Tulare, El Cerrito

\$489,000

Sunny Traditional \$465,000

Walk to Kensington Circle from your three bedroom, two bath home. Fireplace, eat-in kitchen, and a formal dining room are just a few of the amenities.

Open Sun. 2 - 4

135 Santa Fe, El Cerrito

Denyse Biagi 559-2908

Charm & Convenience \$365,000

Walk to Berkeley Bowl, BART, and tennis courts from this charming 3 bedroom, 1 bath home. Formal dining room, large deck and lush yard with fruit trees.

Open Sun. 2 - 4

1704 Oregon, Berkeley

Rosita Thornton 559-2901

\$365,000

Spacious & Bright One Level \$285,000

Three bedrooms, 2 baths, big living room w/fireplace, dining area, kitchen w/eating space and gas stove, hwd flrs, central gas heat, detached converted garage and big lot. Hurry, won't last!

Open Sun. 2 - 4

628 Sonoma, Richmond

Lloyd Jung 559-2912

Sharp Annex Bungalow

Centrally located Richmond Annex two bedrooms, two bath suite. Redone with new kitchen, new bathroom, and double-paneled windows.



Open Sun. 2 - 4

6017 Tehama, Richmond Annex

John Underwood 559-2911

\$269,000

Sweet Home \$229,000

Home on a large lot in an excellent area. Features include a fireplace in the living room, a formal dining room, random plank hardwood floors, new windows, one bath, an attached one-car garage. The backyard features a multi-use patio. For more information call.



Wynberg, 527-2700 x31.

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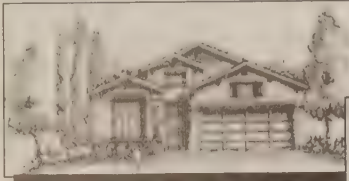
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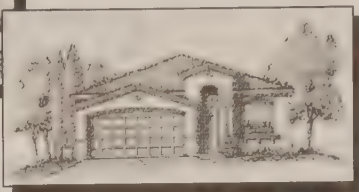
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Open Sunday 1-4pm

Two beautiful new homes located just off Skyline Blvd., near Keller. Hardwood, granite, stone master baths, rear decks and views.



8201 Skyline Circle, Oakland
4 bedrooms, 3½ baths
\$729,000

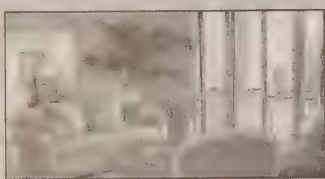


8205 Skyline Circle, Oakland
3 bedrooms, 2½ baths
\$709,000

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904 Alvarado Road

OPEN 1pm-4pm Sunday. Sensational Views of the bay and Golden Gate. Three fireplaces, four bedrooms, library den, deck, wine cellar, au-pair suite. And wait until you ascend the Scarlet O'Hara Staircase. I offer you the finest appointments in the Bay area. Network ready for your needs.

New Price

\$1,495,000



900 Alvarado Road

OPEN 1pm-4pm Sunday. Beside the wine cellar, the network ready home, I offer you the most beautiful master suite in the area. You will love the master chef kitchen, the birch, oak, honed marble, granite and the sensational appointments.

New Price

\$1,595,000

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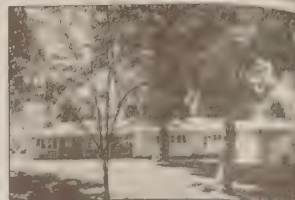
ALAMO



Views, Views, Views \$1,988,000

This home has it all! Italian marble flooring, unique craftsmanship, privacy, pool/spa, dramatic views from every room, and overlooks Roundhill Country Club. Call to preview!

DANVILLE



Lovely Creekside Setting! \$1,550,000

Located in Blackhawk Valley and featuring 4 bedrooms + den, 3.5 baths, 4000 sq. ft., granite kitchen with hardwood floors and maple cabinets, and on a large level.

LAFAYETTE

\$695,000

Charming home with a great cul-de-sac location and views! Featuring 3 bedrooms and bonus/recreation room, 2+ baths, private backyard with pool and a great woody setting.

SAN LEANDRO

\$310,000

Absolutely the best views of the Bay and bridges from this 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home with plenty of room for expansion and great for first time buyers. Don't miss this one!

OAKLAND

\$265,000

Enjoy this great 2 story home featuring 3 bedrooms upstairs 3 bedrooms downstairs, 2+ baths and the sellers are motivated! Call for additional information or for a showing!!

WALNUT CREEK

\$899,000

New executive home with 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, marble bathrooms, stone fireplace panoramic valley views and perfect for entertaining.

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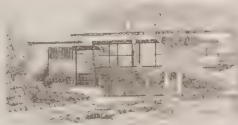
90 La Salle Avenue New Listing \$769,000

This spacious Piedmont home offers traditional details including hardwood floors, built-ins, formal dining room and family room. 4BR/3BA. Lovely tree view. Debra J. Dryden



60 Portsmouth Road \$729,000

Wonderful traditional with level-out back garden. 5BR (one could be a den), 2BA, eat-in kitchen. Great location, near Wildwood School & the park. Katherine Cooper



34 Calvert Court New Listing \$685,000

With all the advantages of modern design including high ceilings, expansive windows & free-flowing spaces, this spacious contemporary is sited on a double cul-de-sac lot. Sheila Gallagher

~ Oakland - Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m. ~

6070 Contra Costa Road \$1,599,000

An exciting new interpretation of a traditional Craftsman. This elegant 4BR/3BA masterpiece offers the perfect setting for entertaining of any scale. Laurel Stand

6365 Fairlane Drive \$1,539,000

Modernist masterpiece w/stunning panoramic SF views. Approx. 5600 sq. ft. of open spaces, lofty terraces & balconies. 3BR suites, 3-car garage & large studio. Susanne Paul



1225 Grand View Drive \$1,195,000

Southwestern contemporary with panoramic Bay views. Built in 1999 with over 3000 sq. ft. 3BR/3.5BA. Fabulous artistic finish details. John Karnay



28 Rydal Court New Listing \$829,000

Newer Montclair home. Large park-like garden, 4BR including master suite, 2.5 BA, chef's kitchen/family room w/fireplace, formal dining room & great natural light. Kurt Buchholz



6133 Estates Drive New Listing \$1,195,000

Piedmont side of Montclair estate w/commanding Bay view, set on over 1/2 acre. Lovely Monterey Colonial style. 5BR/4BA, pool and separate studio. Elizabeth Dickson

839 Rosemount Road New Listing \$679,000

The classic Italianate two-story traditional home in beautiful Crocker Highlands. Wonderful architectural details throughout. 3BR/1.5BA. Mavis Delacroix

58 Buckeye Ave. New Listing \$3,400,000

A home for today! Striking city & Bay views, open floor plan, dramatically remodeled, exciting new kitchen, 3+BR/2.5BA. Level in & out. Near Hillcrest School. Sandra Vogl

45 Templar Place \$595,000

Charming 3+BR/2.5BA traditional in a wonderful Rockridge neighborhood. Updated kitchen & baths. Separate studio. Fabulous deck & garden. Privacy. Judy Rankankan

5825 Lawton Avenue New Price \$549,000

This stunning Rockridge Craftsman, on a tree lined street close to Market Hall, has 3+BR/2BA, formal dining, breakfast & family rooms, loft & sunny garden. Sheila Gallagher

4471 Pleasant Valley Ct. New Listing \$549,000

Remodeled throughout w/3BR/2BA, formal dining room, new eat-in kitchen, box wood ceilings, hardwood floors, level garden. Great location. Kurt Buchholz

4350 Arden Pl. New Listing \$542,000

An English cottage surrounded by enchanted gardens on a quiet cul-de-sac. Modern features embrace the original details & detail. 3BR/2+BR. Close to transportation. Mindy Scott

419 Creighton Way New Listing \$529,000

This updated 4+BR/3BA home has a sweeping SF Bay view, gourmet kitchen, lg rec/media room, office, bonus room, master suite, level yard & fabulous deck. Sherry Benning

105 Sonia Street New Listing \$529,000

A charming 2BR/1.5BA Spanish Mediterranean w/upstairs kitchen, cozy office, spacious rec/media room, level landscaped yard & hardwood floors. Sherry Benning

3101 Sylvan Avenue New Listing \$375,000

Sweet remodeled Craftsman in quiet Laureate neighborhood. Lots of charm & upgrades. Private garden oasis & wisteria trellis. 3BR/1BA. Ed Karnay

10551 Stella Street New Listing \$249,000

Enjoy the charm & comfort of this 2BR/1BA home w/formal dining room, hardwood floors, fireplace, pool garden, quiet neighborhood. Carin K.

1530 Pearl Street New Listing \$360,000

Charming 1918 bungalow in a great Alameda neighborhood. Living room w/fireplace, dining room w/built-ins, eat-in kitchen. Deck overlooks garden. Bettina Baker

~ Piedmont, Oakland & Berkeley - By Appointment ~



New Estate New Listing \$3,400,000

Enjoy spectacular sunsets & commanding views of the Bay, bridges and San Francisco from this architect designed, gorgeous masterpiece. John Karnay



Claremont Traditional \$1,375,000

Fabulous 5+BR/4.5BA Claremont traditional. Updated kitchen, formal dining room, sun room, great master suite. Private garden. Bay view. Separate au-pair. Karen Starr

Sophisticated European Chalet \$895,000

Views of SF are yours in this sophisticated 4BR home reminiscent of a European chalet. Delightful level garden. Quality built in 1996. Linda McClure

Art Deco Tri-Plex \$575,000

Fabulous tri-plex. Close to Lakeshore & Grand Ave. shops and restaurants. Two spacious & sophisticated 2BR units + studio. Ideal for owner occupied. Ed Karnay

Piedmont Avenue \$349,000

Charming cottage. 2BR/1BA, high ceilings, fireplace, formal dining room and delightful garden. Katherine Cooper

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ALAMEDA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1325 Clinton Hanna Fry 510-521-5475 Kane & Associates	480/BA	2-4	\$825,000
809 Grand St Ty Welchhart, Gallagher & Lindsey 510-748-1118	484/2 - BA	2-4	\$875,000
229 Sheffield Judy Jacobs 510-814-4711 Harbor Bay Realty	480/2BA	2-4	\$795,000
1348 Broadway Ul Ulford 510-273-9444 Kane & Associates	3 Units	2-4	\$775,000
1255 St. Charles Kane McDougal, Gallagher & Lindsey 510-748-1177	3BA/2BA	2-4	\$750,000
1700 Cornell Steve & Nancy Brant 510-814-4823 Harbor Bay Realty	3 - BD/2BA	2-4	\$595,000
1027 Alameda Ave Martha Turner 510-814-4828 Harbor Bay Realty	2BD/2BA	2-4	\$578,000
1726 Lafayette Vince San Nicolas, Alameda Realty 510-522-8585	2BD/2BA	2-4/30	\$550,000
1281 Caroline Tim Mar 510-814-4817 Harbor Bay Realty	3 - BD/2BA	2-4	\$548,000
2807 Bayview Dr Open Sat & Sun Bill Bissett, Gallagher & Lindsey 510-748-1108	3BA/2 - BA	2-4	\$498,500
1254 Broadway OPEN SAT & SUN Jerry Nussbaum 510-522-0968, John Mokutsky 510-523-6732 Kane & Associates	3BD/BA	2-4	\$470,000
114 Avington Open Sat & Sun Richard Powell 510-814-4837; Lorraine Ingeman 510-814-4716 Harbor Bay Realty	3BD/1 - BA	2-4	\$468,000
21 Hampton Ct Open Sat & Sun Ringo Liu 510-814-4848 Harbor Bay Realty	3BD/2BA	2-4	\$458,000
348 Magnolia OPEN SAT & SUN Kristynia Nowak 510-483-1678, Jerry Hueston 510-522-0968 Kane & Associates	3BD/BA	2-4	\$398,000
1821 Bay St Alan Goch 510-521-0980, Kane & Associates	3BD/BA	2-4	\$389,000
3433 Solomon Lane John Bickley, Bickley R.E. 510-769-1806	3BD/2 - BA	2-5	\$395,000
1055 Mangrove Jude Rivard 510-814-4870 Harbor Bay Realty	2BD/2BA	2-4	\$375,000
1530 Pearl St Fornale Betina Balesch, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	2BD/1BA	2-4/30	\$380,000
1320 9th St Diana Wyman 510-522-6827; Denise Brady 510-523-8888 Baylake Real Estate	2BD	2-4	\$358,000
519 Central Av Ron Bang, Gallagher & Lindsey 510-748-1110	2 - BA/2BA	2-4	\$348,000
3550 DePasser Open Sat & Sun Ann Broad, Gallagher & Lindsey 510-748-1805	2BA/2BA	2-4	\$348,000
1518 Sixth St John Parton, Gallagher & Lindsey 510-748-1115	2BA/2BA	2-4	\$345,000
3214 Fr Open Sat & Sun Mark Playsted 510-814-4874; Nancy Evans-Blanch 510-814-4819 Harbor Bay Realty	2BD/1 - BA	2-4	\$319,000
955 Shorepoint Ct Lillian Shio 510-865-9564 Kane & Associates	2BD/2BA	2-4	\$279,000

ALBANY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
717 Buchanan Rayne Palmer, Prudential CA Rty, 510-525-5143	2BD/1BA	2-4	\$250,000

BERKELEY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1218 Grizzly Peak Berkeley Paul Tompkins 510-652-2133 ext.131, Tompkins Lowenthal Co.	2 - BD/BA	2-4	\$875,000
36 Tarnapalis Berkeley Suzie Schell 510-652-2133 ext.144, Tompkins Lowenthal Co.	3 - BD/3BA	2-4	\$890,000
1559 Thousand Oaks Berkeley Felicia Jenkins, Prudential CA Rty, 510-525-5143	480/3BA	1-4/30	\$599,000
1051 Keith Barbara Reynolds 510-287-5851 Prudential CA Rty	480	2-4	\$595,000
1945 Channing Way Berkeley OPEN SUNDAY Rose Black Head Estate 510-533-1889	3bd/2ba	2-5pm	\$489,000
1700 7th St Terrence Jue, Prudential CA Rty, 510-524-2525	4 - BD/2BA	2-4	\$445,000
1809 9th Street Camille Rogers 510- 845-0200 Prudential	380	2-4	\$385,000
1701 Derby St Berkeley Mary Jane McCowillie, Montclair Better Homes, 510-339-9400	2BD/1BA	2-4/30	\$325,000
2601 College Berkeley Dale McRae 510-652-2133 ext.145, Tompkins Lowenthal Co.	2 - BD/2BA	2-4	\$285,000

EMERYVILLE

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
5538-40 Beaudry St Emeryville Peter Paus, Prudential CA Realty 510-834-2010	5 - BD/3BA	1-4/30	\$422,000
141 Timescal Cr Emeryville John Ball, Prudential CA Realty 510-834-2010	3BD/2BA	2-5	\$295,000

HAYWARD

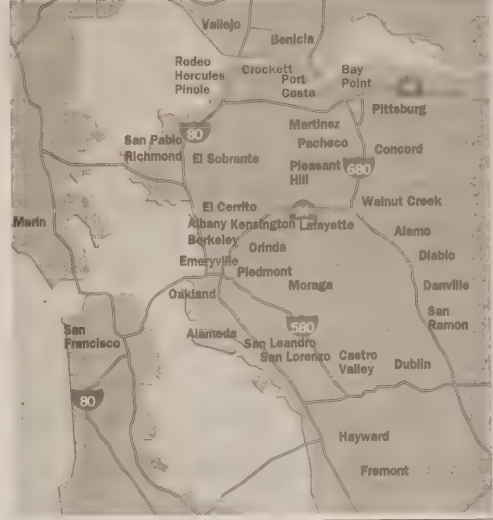
Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
17040 Estaban Carol Knight, Alameda Realty 510-522-8365	3BD/2BA	2-4/30	\$373,900
1242 Ash Hayward Dena Dorsey, Prudential 510-888-9544	2BD/1BA	1-4	\$298,900

KENSINGTON

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
257 Colgate Richard Benner, Prudential CA Rty, 510-525-5143	2BD/1BA	2-4	\$389,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
6070 Contra Costa Rd Upper Rockledge Laurel Strand, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	480/3BA	2-4/30	\$1,599,000
900 Alvarado Claremont Lila Beauty, Prudential CA Rty, 510-845-0200	4 - BD/3BA	1-4	\$1,585,000
6585 Fairlane Dr Montclair Susanne Paul, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	3BD/BA	2-4/30	\$1,539,000
904 Alvarado Claremont Lila Beauty, Prudential CA Rty, 510-845-0200	4 - BD/3BA	1-4	\$1,495,000
904 Alvarado Rd. Claremont Hills Lila Beauty 510- 845-0200 Prudential of Calif.	480	2-4pm	\$1,495,000
1033 Amilo Ave Rockledge Don Knowland, 510-339-6460 ext 318, Pacific Union	480/4BA	2-4/30	\$1,349,900
5352 Hilltop Crescent Rockledge David O're, Prudential 510-339-9290	480/3BA	2-4/30	\$1,295,000
1842 Grandview Dr. Nancy Plattford 510- 845-0200 Prudential of Calif.	380	1-4pm	\$1,295,000



OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
6150 Mazuela Dr Montclair Sandy C., Prudential 510-339-9200	480/3 - BA	2-4/30	\$1,200,000
6130 Estabro Berkeley Elizabeth Dickson, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	5BD/4BA	2-4/30	\$1,195,000
1225 Grand View Dr Berkeley John Kamey, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	3BD/2 - BA	2-4/30	\$1,195,000
6880 Exeter Dr Berkeley Jack Brannenman 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	4 - BD/3BA	2-4/30	\$999,000
6174 Contra Costa Upper Rockledge Yael Carls 510-339-6460 ext 305, Pacific Union	3BD/3BA	1-4	\$939,000
13778 Campus Dr Ridgmont Anne Fazio 510-339-6460 ext 310, Pacific Union	480/3BA	2-4/30	\$929,000
6935 Elvorton Dr Oakland Hills Howard Comens, Prudential 510-339-9290	480/3BA	2-4/30	\$925,000
56 Bay Forest Dr Oakland - Berkeley Hills Wendy Callaghan, Wells & Bennett Realtors 510-531-7008 ext 237	3 - BD/4BA	2-4/30	\$899,000
6946 Bristol Berkeley Address Nancy Tunley, Prudential 510-845-0211	480/4 - BA	1-4	\$950,000
28 Rydal Court Montclair Kurt Buchholz, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	480/2BA	2-4/30	\$828,000
379 61st St Upper Rockledge Howard E. Kane, Ansel 2 Ball 510-530-6330	480/2BA	2-4/30	\$810,000
8801 Skyline Blvd Montclair Sandi Klemmer 510-339-6460 ext 314; Dick Cohen ext. 308 Pacific Union	5 - BD/4BA	2-4/30	\$739,000
8201 Skyline Cir. Oakland 1-45729.000 nr. Keller Sun. 1-4	484/3 - Ba	1-45729.000 nr. Keller Sun. 1-4	\$729,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
8205 Skyline Cir. Berkeley Protea Prop. Don Whitehead, 510-485-8888	3BD/2 - Ba	1-45709.000 nr. Keller Sun. 1-4	\$1,457,000
16 Slater Ln Claremont Hills Julie Lehman, Prudential 510-845-0211	4 - BD/2BA	2-5	\$899,000
6700 Liggett Dr Rum Grant 510-814-4713 Harbor Bay Realty	3 - BD/2BA	2-4	\$895,000
6273 Rutland Rd Berkeley Ruthley Wilcox O'Neil 510-339-6460 ext 368, Pacific Union	480/3 - BA	2-4/30	\$898,000
639 Rosemont Rd Crocker Highlands Mavis Delarosa, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	3 - BD/1BA	2-4/30	\$879,000
5019 Crystal Ridge Ct Ridgmont Robin Mohr 510-339-6460 ext 210, Pacific Union	3BD/2 - BA	2-4/30	\$838,000
58 Buckeye Av Upper Rockledge Sandra Vogel, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	3 - BD/2BA	2-4/30	\$819,000
6705 Oakwood Dr Montclair Mary Neugebauer, Wells & Bennett Realtors 510-530-4148	4BD/2 + BA	2-4/30	\$598,000
45 Templar Pl Upper Rockledge Judy Bronkman, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	3BD/2 - BA	2-4/30	\$595,000
5247 Saddlebrook Dr Oakland Hills Renee Woods 510-339-6460 ext 324, Pacific Union	4BD/2 - BA	2-4/30	\$550,000
4471 Pleasant Valley Piedmont Kurt Buchholz, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	3BD/2BA	2-4/30	\$549,000
4350 Arden Pl Oakland Mindy Scott, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	3BD/2 + BA	2-4/30	\$542,000
805 Mandara Blvd Open Sun 2/25 & Thurs 3/1 Realty World-Coliseum Realty, Betty 510-587-0257	2BD/1/1BA	1-5	\$535,000
580 Elysian Fields Oakland Hills Michelle Miller 510-339-6460 ext 335, Pacific Union	3BD/2BA	1-4	\$523,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
418 Crighton Wy Oakland Sherry Benninger, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	4 - BD/2BA	3-4/30	\$529,000
105 Sonia St Upper Rockledge Sherry Benninger, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	2BD/1 - BA	2-4/30	\$529,000
47 Sequoyah Court Sequoyah High Ziggy Baranowski, Prudential 510-339-9290	View 580/2 - BA	2-4/30	\$488,000
5655 Maxwellton Rd Nancy Norman 510-339-6460 ext 373, Pacific Union	2 - BD/1BA	2-4/30	\$488,000
488 Fairbanks Ave Grandlake Jeffrey Hensell 510-339-6460 ext 307, Pacific Union	3 - BD/2BA	1-4	\$488,000
6416 Pinhaven Rd. Montclair Katie Caulto 510-339-9778 La Salle Properties	2bd/2ba	2-4/30	\$487,000
2 Cabrillo Pl Oakland Hills Caryn Jones 510-339-6460 ext 338, Pacific Union	2BD/2BA	1-4	\$469,000
3634 Woodruff Ave Berkeley Katie Meadows, Wells & Bennett Realtors 510-531-7000 ext 228	3BD/2BA	2-4/30	\$465,000
588 Crestmont Dr Oakland Hills Nancy Moore 510-339-6460 ext 302, Pacific Union	3 - BD/3BA	2-4/30	\$460,000
6821 Thornhill Dr Berkeley Eric Johnson, Prudential 510-339-9290	2BD/1BA	2-4/30	\$449,000
5774 Scarborough Dr Montclair Evelyn Walker, 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	2 - BD/2BA	2-4/30	\$448,000
1212 Mountain Blvd Montclair Katie Meadows, Wells & Bennett Realtors 510-531-7000 ext 228	3BD/2BA	2-4/30	\$439,000
3477 Crane Way Oakland Hills David O're, Prudential 510-339-9290	3 - BD/1BA	2-4/30	\$438,000
3045 Frye St Oakland Brene Earl McCan 510-339-6460 ext 352, Pacific Union	480/BA	1-4	\$435,000
2820 Alida St Lincoln Heights Rachel Baker, 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	3BD/1BA	2-4/30	\$429,000
7 Veteran Way Diamond Richard Mathis, Prudential CA Realty 510-834-2010	3BD/2 + BA	2-4/30	\$425,000
293 Santa Clara Ave Grand Lake Chris Spacker, Prudential CA Realty 510-834-2010	3BD/1BA	12-5	\$419,000
3733 Urwood Berkeley Dol Rhee 510-339-9900 La Salle Properties	2BD/1BA	2-4/30	\$419,000
3834 Wisconsin Laurel, Duxley 2/1 & 1/1 Flores Macchitella, 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	480/BA	2-4/30	\$419,000
1101 E 21st St 4-plex Ann Per, Prudential CA Realty 510-834-2010	680/4BA	2-4/30	\$399,000
6949 Shepherd Canyon Montclair Carol Cohen 510-339-9900 La Salle Properties	3BD/1BA	2-4/30	\$398,000
5516 Vicente Wy Rockledge Michael Vahns, Value Realty Co. 510-451-7317	2BD/1BA	2-5	\$389,000
70 Rio Vista Amy K. Hayashida, Prudential CA Rty, 510-524-2525	2BD/1 - BA	1-3/4	\$395,000
3101 Sylvan Av Laurel Ed Kuo, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	3BD/1BA	2-4/30	\$375,000
3914 Eros Ave Oakland Tom Anthony 510-339-6460 ext 336, Pacific Union	3BD/1BA	2-4/30	\$371,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
3805 Canon Ave Oakland Patricia Bennett, Montclair Better Homes, 510-339-9290	1 - BD/1BA	1-4	\$369,000
565 Bellevue - 200 Remmery Branch, Montclair Better Homes, 510-339-9290	1800/3BA	2-4/30	\$369,000
1486 Adeline St Oakland Mary Bremer, Prudential 510-339-9290	3BD/2 - BA	2-4/30	\$340,000
2840 School St Aunt Targel, Targel & Targel, 510-480-8800	2 - BD/1BA	2-4	\$339,000
3821 Midvale Laurel Linda Hunt, Montclair Better Homes, 510-339-9290	2BD/1BA	2-4/30	\$339,000
2436 66th Av Realty World Marlin Assoc. 510-523-8888	1 - BD/1BA	2-4	\$339,000
4834 Altendale Ave Montclair Katie Phillips, Wells & Bennett Realtors 510-531-7000	2BD/1BA	2-4/30	\$339,000
10551 Stella St Oak Knoll Carla Carra, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	3BD/1BA	2-4/30	\$339,000
5824 Foothill Blvd Montclair Victoria Williams, Prudential CA Realty 510-834-2010	2 - BD/1BA	2-4/30	\$339,000
727 43rd St Oakland Marcel Wilkins-Olsen, Prudential CA Realty 510-834-2010	2BD/1BA	2-4/30	\$339,000
325 Lenox Ave - 207 Adams Point Kathy Wirth 510-814-4706 Harbor Bay Realty	130/1BA	1-4/30	\$339,000

PIEDMONT

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
431 Pacific Ave Piedmont Martha Shih, Montclair Better Homes, 510-339-9290	4 - BD/2BA	1-4/30	\$1,525,000
30 LaSalle Ave Piedmont Doris J. Dryden, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	480/BA	2-4/30	\$1,489,000
80 Portsmouth Rd Piedmont Katherine Cooper, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	580/2BA	2-4/30	\$1,489,000
34 Calvert Court Piedmont Shelia Gallagher, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	3BD/2A	2-4/30	\$1,489,000
415 Moraga Ave Piedmont Francis Heath 510-339-6460 ext 80, Pacific Union	3BD/2BA	2-4/30	\$1,489,000

RICHMOND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1811 Rixton Ave Open Sat/Sun cyrilbarkus.com 510-462-8528 Search18	1 BD/2BA	1-4/30	\$399,000
5800 Alpine Rd. Open Sat/Sun cyrilbarkus.com 510-462-8528 Search18	380/1BA	1-4/30	\$399,000

SAN LEANDRO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
824 Midway Kathy Goshall, Gallagher & Lindsey 510-748-1118	284/1BA	2-4/30	\$375,000
2350 Hawthorn Pl San Leandro EARLE SHERK Montclair Better Homes, 510-339-9290	3BD/2A	2-4/30	\$375,000
2523 Galleon Doree Gullerme 510-814-4804 Harbor Bay Realty	3BD/2A	2-4/30	\$375,000

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Open Home Guide 3pm Wednesday
Friday 5pm WednesdayCancellations same as deadlines
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Fax copy deadline 1 hour prior to publication deadline

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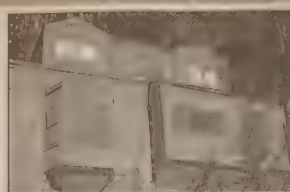
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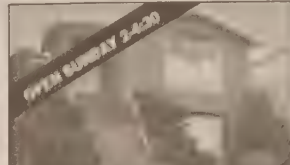
Montclair Contemporary.....\$569,000
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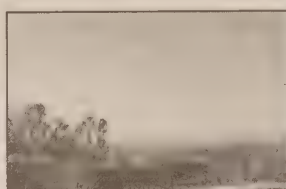
San Mateo-S.F.-Marin Views!.....\$449,000
View the night lights of Oakland, San Francisco thru floor-to-ceiling windows from this charming 2BR, 2BA home with 1BR, 1BA in-law. Wood floors, beamed ceilings. Romantic sunsets while cozied by the raised brick fireplace
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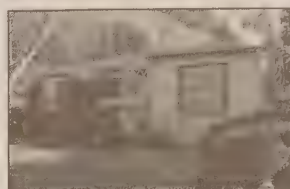
Desirable Glenview Neighborhood!..\$419,000
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Fabulous S.F. Bay View.....\$375,000
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Updated 3BR home with separate studio/in-law unit. Lovely setting on cul-de-sac. Fenced yard, fireplace, hardwood floors. Close to transportation
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Pristine 2BR, 2BA unit in well-managed building near Oakland's Rose Garden. Fireplace in living room. Offers March 1st
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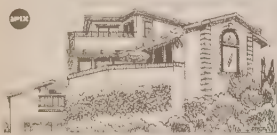
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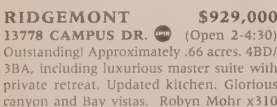
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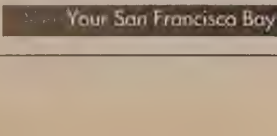
UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$939,000
6174 CONTRA COSTA RD. (Open 1-4:00) Enjoy panoramic views of San Francisco and the Bay from this gorgeous 3BD/3BA home. Features elegant living room, large family room opening to garden, gracious dining room, office with terrace, and large bonus room over garage. Teri Carlisle x305



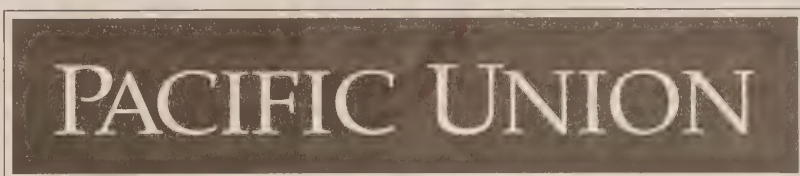
RIDGEMONT \$929,000
13778 CAMPUS DR. (Open 2-4:30) Outstanding! Approximately .66 acres. 4BD/3BA, including luxurious master suite with private retreat. Updated kitchen. Glorious canyon and Bay vistas. Robyn Mohr x310



MONTCLAIR \$739,000
8801 SKYLINE BLVD. (Open 2-4:30) Spacious & light 5+BD/4BA contemporary with flexible floor plan. Family room, rumpus room & decks provide for both living and entertaining enjoyment. Also features an in-law unit with separate entrance. Sandi Klemmer x314 & Dick Cohen x308



MONTCLAIR \$689,000
6273 RUTHLAND RD. (Open 2-4:30) Newer construction Tudor home. Four bedrooms, including large master suite, three and a half baths, elevator and intercom system. Great Montclair location. Ashley Wilcox O'Neill x368



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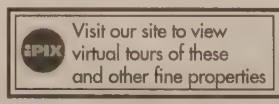
RIDGEMONT \$638,000
5019 CRYSTAL RIDGE CT. (Open 2-4:30) City lights, glorious sunsets and unobstructed panoramic views from this 3BD/2.5BA home on a quiet cul-de-sac. Robyn Mohr x310



OAKLAND HILLS \$550,000
5247 SADDLE BROOK DR. (Open 2-4:30) Attractive and lovely all-level home beautifully situated on a corner lot featuring 4BD/2.5BA, family room with brick fireplace, custom fireplace in spacious living room, updated kitchen. Rosalie Woods x324



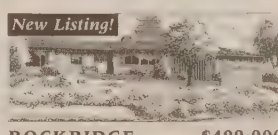
PIEDMONT \$545,000
415 MORAGA AVE. (Open 2-4:30) Traditional style with natural woods in living room & dining room. 3-plus bedrooms, 2 full baths. Office or den space. Francis Heath x357



PIEDMONT \$2,999,000
This gorgeous French Mediterranean estate features Bay views from San Jose to the Golden Gate Bridge. With its 6 bedrooms and 4 full and 1 half-baths, it provides classic Piedmont living. Debi Fitzgerald x306



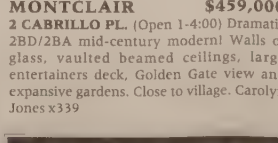
OAKLAND HILLS \$529,000
580 ELYSIAN FIELDS (Open 1-4:00) Beautifully situated overlooking a golf course in the Oakland Hills. 3BD/2.5BA. The family room has vaulted ceiling, excellent window placement, hardwood floors and a fireplace. Michelle Miller x335



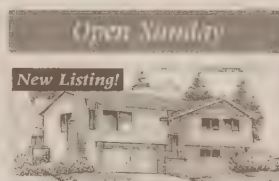
ROCKRIDGE \$499,000
5665 MAXWELTON RD. (Open 2-4:30) 2+BD/1.5BA. Stylish contemporary. Floor-to-ceiling windows. French doors to extra large lot. Updated kitchen. Nancy Noman x373



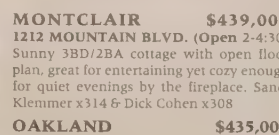
GRANDLAKE \$469,000
488 FAIRBANKS AVE. (Open 1-4:00) Conveniently located, this fine 3+BD/2+BA home features living room with fireplace and original built-ins, formal dining room and updated kitchen. Jeffrey Himmel x307



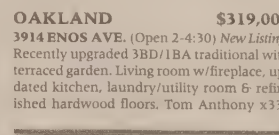
MONTCLAIR \$459,000
2 CABRILLO PL. (Open 1-4:00) Dramatic 2BD/2BA mid-century modern! Walls of glass, vaulted beamed ceilings, large entertainers deck, Golden Gate view and expansive gardens. Close to village. Carolyn Jones x339



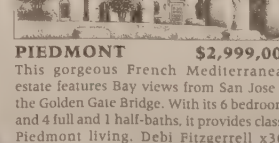
OAKLAND HILLS \$450,000
568 CRESTMONT DR. (Open 2-4:30) This wonderful home boasts designer paint choices and crown moldings. 3+BD/3BA and family room which opens out to a large level and private garden. Nancy Moore x302



MONTCLAIR \$439,000
1212 MOUNTAIN BLVD. (Open 2-4:30) Sunny 3BD/2BA cottage with open floor plan, great for entertaining yet cozy enough for quiet evenings by the fireplace. Sandi Klemmer x314 & Dick Cohen x308



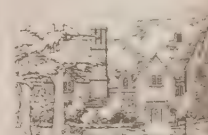
OAKLAND \$319,000
3914 ENOS AVE. (Open 2-4:30) New Listing! Recently upgraded 3BD/1BA traditional with terraced garden. Living room w/fireplace, updated kitchen, laundry/utility room & refinished hardwood floors. Tom Anthony x336



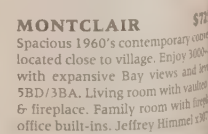
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PIEDMONT Price upon request
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Spacious 1960's contemporary corner located close to village. Enjoy 3000+ sq. ft. with expansive Bay views and 5BD/3BA. Living room with vaulted ceiling & fireplace. Family room with fireplace built-ins. Jeffrey Himmel x307

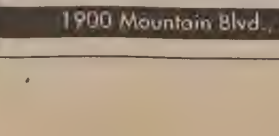


PIEDMONT Price upon request
Enjoy panoramic Bay views from 4+ bedrooms/4+ baths, master bedroom w/fireplace, formal dining rooms, & music room. Updated kitchen has deck and garden access to develop attic space and rec room. Helen Danhaki x356 & Charlotte Boyle x370

By Appointment



PIEDMONT \$2,999,000
This gorgeous French Mediterranean estate features Bay views from San Jose to the Golden Gate Bridge. With its 6 bedrooms and 4 full and 1 half-baths, it provides classic Piedmont living. Debi Fitzgerald x306



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SPORTS

JV

Friday, February 23, 2001

Section C

Sports Cougar wrestlers take BSAL to the mat [C2]

Arts Belasco presents 'Little Shoppe of Horrors' [C3]

Too much Roberson

UofA-bound star named ACCAL MVP, leads Berkeley past Encinal

By Pete Elman
CORRESPONDENT

Berkeley — Too much speed, too many turnovers, and way too much Robin Roberson. In a game that displayed their awesome offensive firepower, the Berkeley Yellowjackets ran around, by and through the Encinal Jets en route to a 93-35 victory Tuesday night in Berkeley.

The Yellowjackets (11-0 in ACCAL league play, 20-5 overall) exemplify the best in girls' high school basketball. Before the game, head coach Gene Nakamura, in his 18th season at Berkeley, was presented with a plaque by his assistant coaches honoring his recently earned 400th victory.

Nakamura gracefully acknowledged the gift by giving credit to his presenters.

"A coach is only as good as his assistants," he said.

On "senior night" the coach decided to give his three seniors some extra playing time. Encinal coach Tanda Rucker's team was the unlucky recipient of this gesture.

In her rookie season, Rucker, the former Yellowjacket All-American, has done an excellent job at Encinal. The Jets (8-4 league, 14-12 overall) have been in almost every game, but they ran into a juggernaut at Berkeley.

Prep girls' basketball

Berkeley 93
Encinal 35



ACCAL MVP ROBIN ROBERSON (center) chased down a loose ball during the Berkeley Yellowjackets league contest against Encinal Feb. 20. The Yellowjackets defeated Encinal 93-35.

See JACKETS, Page C2

Dons rain on 'Jackets' parade

NCS loss does not tarnish strong season

By Dean Rosener
CORRESPONDENT

The Berkeley girls' soccer season ended in the rain last Saturday night. However, there were no accompanying teardrops from two senior stalwarts on the team.

Sure, they had just lost at home to Amador Valley 1-0 in the North Coast Section 3A quarterfinals. But Liz O'Hare and Cecil Clark saw the bright side right after the soggy night loss.

"In our first three seasons, we won zero, zero, and two games," O'Hare said. "So a 12-7-1 record and the ACCAL title feels good after all that frustration."

Said Clark: "In her first two years here, our coach (Suzanne Silet) was so patient with us. We're proud that in her third year, her patience paid off."

Four-year starters O'Hare and

See NCS SOCCER, Page C2

Chieftains press past Panthers

STAFF REPORTS

RICHMOND — Fourth-seeded Salesian (19-8) solved No. 5 St. Mary's press and intensified its own pressure in the second quarter to pull away for a 67-49 win in the opening round of the Bay Shore Athletic League girls basketball playoffs.

Each team showed the nerves associated with a playoff game in the opening period. Turnovers were the rule, and Salesian struggled against the Panthers press.

In the second quarter, however, Salesian settled down and took control on the offensive end.

See PANTHERS, Page C2

Panthers tracking down records

STAFF REPORTS

The St. Mary's boys' track team set three of the nation's top five marks in three events over the weekend at the Simplot Games at Idaho State University in Pocatello, Idaho.

The Panthers won two relay events. The 1,600 relay team of Asokah Muhammed, Chris Dunbar, Courtney Brown and Halihl Guy clocked a time of three minutes, 20.76 seconds. The sprint medley team of Guy (400 meters), Muhammed (200 meters), Dunbar (200 meters) and Sean Geraghty (800 meters) also won their event in 3:33.88.

See TRACK, Page C2



BATTLING FOR THE BALL, El Cerrito's Tyeisha Brown tangled with Alameda's Nicole Catania (40) and Lucretia Galindo. Playing in Alameda Feb. 20, the Gauchos defeated the Hornets 64-49.

Gauchos making run at playoffs

Second-quarter run lifts Gauchos; All-Leaguer Brown scores 24

By Bill Kruissink
SPORTS EDITOR

ALAMEDA — The El Cerrito girls busted Alameda with a 12-0 run early in the second quarter. Other than that, the clubs exchanges mini-runs

and both struggled at the free-throw line. The clubs ran the court together, missed shots in the paint and the Hornets finally picked up the pace with a few 3-pointers. In fact, Hornets actually caught the Gauchos early in the

Prep girls' basketball

El Cerrito 64
Alameda 49

fourth quarter, but the "catch" did not hold.

But it was the 12-0 run that mattered most. There was nothing else like it in the game and the Gauchos used it to claim a 64-49 win at the Hornets' Nest Tuesday night.

It wasn't an A-plus game (there were too many rough spots) but a win is a win — especially when it comes on the road. But most impor-

tant, it keeps the Gauchos (17-8, 8-3 in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League) heading in the right direction for the North Coast Section Division III playoffs — the first visit by El Cerrito since the early '90s.

"I believe we're ready for the playoffs," said Gauchos All-Leaguer Tyeisha Brown, who led all scorers

See GAUCHOS, Page C2

ROBERT BRAUNSTEIN

Focus on Sports

Five who make John beam

It was at Skyline High last week for the Skyline-Castlemont game. The Knights from Castle-

mont won the game to solidify their second-place spot in the Oakland Area League. The third and final league playoff spot is still up for grabs.

As always, boys athletic director and head football coach John Beam was at the game. He was beaming over the five Skyline football players who received Division I scholarships this year. Think about it: five from one school. They go to Georgia Tech, Harrison

State, to University of Arizona, and Skidmore to San Jose State.

What makes this even more amazing is Beam and Skyline do this every year. He handed me a

booklet with a list of players who went from Skyline to college and then who played in the NFL!

The players get the bulk of the credit — they put in the hard work on the field and in the classroom to make it happen. But none of the players get a scholarship without Beam showing them the way and naming every college coach in the country. It seems like every time I call Skyline there is a college coach on the phone or in John Beam's office. They know he delivers quality people. That's why they keep coming back.

So you thing you're busy check out Stevie Kernan. She was the Amador girls' soccer MVP again this past Saturday. Her 76th minute goal gave the team a 1-0 win over Berkeley. Stevie led her team in goals this season.

She missed a breakaway shot early in the game and said afterward she owed it to her team to make up for it. But soccer is just a part of the story. Stevie is also a star on the Amador girls basketball team. She's not the star of that team, but she does contribute. I

remember a game earlier this year with Amador stumbling. Stevie came off the bench and played wild, frenetic soccer to bring the momentum back to her team. Stevie's older sister, Brittany, also played both years at Amador. When the winter season is over, Stevie can take a breather.

No matter who wins the soccer championships in the North Coast Section this year, the East Bay Athletic League has sent a message: soccer is their sport. Soccer is the best in the section. The girls final four in the 3A playoffs all come from the EBAL. El Cerrito, Monte Vista, Amador and Foothill were the four teams going in, and three of the quarterfinals games were close. Still, to have four teams from the same league make the playoffs is impressive.

Amador and Monte Vista made the semis on the boys side of the EBAL. Miramonte, El Cerrito, and Las Lomas made the Division semis from the Division III playoffs. The Gauchos and Foothill Athletic League. I'm not sure what it all means, but these teams can be proud to have played in very tough games and now have to play each other again for the right to be champions.

The problem with splitting the playoffs is you don't get to see the matchups you would like to see. For example, I would like to see undefeated Cal High play the Gauchos, who only lost one game this season came to national championship Mitty of San

See BRAUNSTEIN, Page C2

Gauchos

FROM PAGE C1

with 24 points. "This will be our first year going to (North Coast). There's nothing for us to lose. Why not just go and play our hearts out?"

Which takes us back to that 12-0 run. Tied 10-10 a little more than a minute into the second half, the Gauchos began to assert themselves when Jordan McCormick snapped off a jump shot for a two-point lead. When the Hornets turned the ball over seconds later, Brown went in for two and a 14-10 advantage.

The run picked up steam. A couple of missed Gaucho free throws (El Cerrito missed its first nine freebies) were followed by another Hornet turnover, wonderfully converted by Brown. Yet another Hornet turnover led to Brown going in for two yet again. Eight seconds after that, Brown had the ball and did not pause in striking for another field goal, drawing a foul in the deal. She missed her free throw, but Gaucho Margueta Green wound up with the ball. She scored to give her team a 22-10 lead.

El Cerrito's 12-point lead slowly shrank to eight, 30-22, at the half

when the Hornets closed out the second period with a 10-4 run. And Alameda (10-15, 4-7) outscored the visitors 12-10 in the third period to close to within 40-34.

That things tightened further point to a problem: some shakiness for El Cerrito at the line. The Gauchos opened the fourth quarter by missing four straight free throws and the Hornets, who came into this season having won every game in league the past four seasons, slowly crept in to tie the game.

Nicole Catania made a free throw and Meghan Pipkin hit inside the paint, then added a free throw to cut the gap to 40-38. When El Cerrito failed to score on its next possession, Alameda did, sending All-Leaguer Lucy Galindo (15 points) in for two and a tie score.

But while Alameda's perseverance paid off, so did El Cerrito's second-quarter run. After all, the score was simply tied. Brown got the lead back, scoring with 6:16 to go in the game. Less than 30 seconds later, Brown ducked in for two and a 44-40 edge. When Galindo responded with a field goal, Brown came right back, twisting through defenders for a 46-42 lead.

Alameda was never closer than four points of El Cerrito again. Mc-

Cormick gave the Gauchos a six-point lead and Briani Davis made it seven.

And down the stretch, the Gauchos began making their free throws. Tiffany Shepherd made two with 1:47 to go, and her teammates followed by sending 10 of the next 18 down the chute.

Postgame:
A GAME ON THE LINE ... El Cerrito went 2-for-11 from the line in the first half and was just 2-for-10 in the second half heading into the final two minutes. The club closed well however, knocking down 10 of its last 18 free throws to finish 16-for-41 on the night (39 percent).

Brown, who went 0-7 from the line, said: "I don't know what happened tonight."

For its part, Alameda didn't shoot a free throw for more than 1 1/2 minutes, and were just 1-for-4 in the first half. The Hornets made just 8 free throws in 25 attempts (32 percent).

STATS ... Brown wound up with 24 points, 11 rebounds, five assists and nine steals ... Shepherd grabbed 15 rebounds, Analiese McGrew 10.

For Alameda, Kumauri Wills had nine boards and three steals and Nikki Marshall had eight boards to go with her seven points.

ahead 22-6 after one period.

The second quarter was more of the same, except for different faces. Nakamura put his subs in, and they didn't miss a beat. Junior guard Natasha Bailey (five points) was everywhere, hounding the Jets and keeping second chances alive for her teammates.

Also prominent in the mix for the 'Jackets were senior forward Gelatir Fullwood (11 points) and junior center Sabrina Keys (five points, three blocks).

Encinal forward Noelle Samuels (five points) was the only senior suited up for the Jets, who were also without injured senior Sonya Sarcos. Amber English (seven points), Becky McMahon and Jackie Randolph (six points) accumulated 13 fouls between them, most committed trying to guard Roberson, who finished the half with 24 points. Amber Carswell led the Jets with seven points.

Rucker knew there wasn't any stopping the MVP on this night. "She has a passion for the game," Rucker said.

The Yellowjackets led 39-19 as the teams went into the locker room.

As the second half got underway, Berkeley senior point guard Danielle Wilburn showed why her team is undefeated in league play. Wilburn, who finished with 14 points, six assists and four steals, picked the Jets' pockets several times, creating easy fast breaks for her teammates. She also showed a nice touch from the outside, hitting a couple of 3-pointers.

After three periods it was 61-23, but Berkeley did not let up — they were having too much fun.

In the fourth quarter Wilburn's backcourt partner Angelita Hutton, a 5'8" junior, gave the fans a clinic in how to play the unselfish hustle game. Swarming on defense (five steals), threading the needle with

pinpoint long-bounce passes (seven assists) and finishing around the rim (12 points), Hutton showed why Nakamura will go into next season with high hopes.

As the clock wound down the Yellowjackets kept piling it on. Their game is to run, and the shot clock rarely got below 20 seconds. Most of their baskets were layups created by their gambling defense — they scored an impressive 40 points off turnovers.

Rucker gave praise to her alma mater. "Nothing's changed around here," she laughed. "Same tough zone, deep bench, athletic players — same great coach. And without our point guard, we had no chance."

Postgame:
NCS ... The NCS tournament starts next week, and Encinal's fate is in the hands of the playoff committee, which meets Sunday. It could go either way for the Jets, who are also in the Division III bracket with rival El Cerrito, who they swept this year.

Berkeley will go into the playoffs seeded very high (Division I) and setting their sights on the state, where they lost last year's final to Narbonne, 64-52.

But Nakamura isn't looking past the local teams.

"First we have to win the NCS, and I hear that Pittsburg is tough," he said.

A WILDCAT ... Roberson has signed a letter of intent to attend the University of Arizona next year. Look for her to make an impact in the Pac-10 soon.

She'll be joining Encinal's Isaac Watts. At 6-foot-3 and 230 pounds, the Wildcats have Watts pegged as a defensive end on the gridiron. But Watts is also an outstanding basketball player, averaging double digits in scoring.

NCS soccer

FROM PAGE C1

Clark anchored a defense that held Amador Valley (14-3-1) scoreless for the first 75 minutes.

Then with only five minutes left in the match, Amador Valley midfielder Rose Zapata lofted a long ball down the middle to striker Stevie Kernan — who lost it after two dribbles.

"It hit the left side of my right foot and spun left," Kernan said. "I thought I'd lost my chance. But I chased it down, and was able to hit a line drive with my left foot into the right corner of the net."

That was it. Berkeley couldn't score.

"Amador Valley had a reputation for having a great defense," O'Hare said. "It turned out to be deserved."

Indeed, the Yellowjackets were held to just one shot on goal for the entire match. In the 74th minute, Berkeley's Annie Horton streaked down the right side but had too severe an angle and Amador Valley goalie Heather Hartman stopped her shot.

Just one minute later, Kernan scored.

The Dons managed eight shots on goal. But joining O'Hare and Clark as stubborn Berkeley defenders were fullback Kira Fatheree and goal keeper Sara Corrigan-Gibbs.

Amador Valley finished third in the East Bay Athletic League, a league Berkeley left the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League.

"I'll admit that the ACCAL was not as strong a league as the EBAL," Sillett said. "But with this tough game we played tonight and with wins over teams like O'Dowd and Piedmont, we proved we're a quality team."

Post game:
Everybody expects Kernan to join her sister in a Rocky Mountain High. Maybe, maybe not.

The Dons' 5-foot-3 junior star said: "Everyone expects me, in two years, to join my sister, who is the freshman sweeper at Colorado College. But I'm afraid I'll miss California." ... Amador Valley was seeded No. 3 in the tournament.

Cougar wrestlers take BSAL to the mat

By Phil Jensen
STAFF WRITER

VALLEJO — It's tradition for Albany High School to honor its league champions by hanging their photos in the Cougars' wrestling room.

Cougars coach Kermit Bankson will have to make room for 11 more.

Albany dominated the inaugural Bay Shore Athletic League championship meet at St. Patrick on Saturday, sending all 14 of its wrestlers to the finals and nabbing 11 championships in the four-team league. The Cougars easily won the team title with 184 points, out-distancing second-place St. Patrick by 64 points.

"They were pretty motivated," said Bankson, who has never had a team send all 14 of its wrestlers to league championship matches and have 11 winners in his 31 years of coaching. "We talked a lot during the week about the pictures."

St. Patrick prevented an Albany sweep by winning three weight divisions. Berkeley finished third with 71 points, followed by John Swett. The top two finishers in each weight class advance to the North Coast Section championships Feb. 23-24 at Deer Valley High School.

Perhaps the most exciting match of the day occurred in the 142-pound final. Albany's Yaw Yiadom trailed St. Patrick's Miguel Isip 7-4 in the third period, but Yiadom executed an escape and a takedown in the last 10 seconds to force an overtime period.

Yiadom produced a takedown 38 seconds into overtime. As he saw the referee put up two fingers, Yiadom fell backward in jubilation with his index fingers raised in the air.

"I couldn't believe I came out this year, coach (Tyronne) Rose said. Bankson pushed me every day. I knew I had to do something to win. I couldn't give up."

In terms of time, the 27th match was exactly the opposite. In 142-pound championship, heavyweights Brian Regg wrestled his match with St. Patrick's Branch with a pin in just 10 seconds. It was the second straight win in Albany wrestling history, going to Bankson.

Regg capped a run of straight pins for the Cougars. Hughes won the 191-pound pinning John Swett's Rose High in 49 seconds, and Mike Egan won their 217-pound match.

Albany opened the three straight victories with a 105-105 defeated St. Stephen George 14-9. David Yeaman (114) pinned Berkeley's ... 1:00. Joey Seltzer defeated Berkeley 7-2 at 121 pounds. Griffin (147) pinned Miguel Cruz in 32 seconds.

Other Albany wrestlers Erik Blaisdell (132), N. (154) and Karl Moore were unable to finish. He injured his knee, and the referee took him out of the match.

Chris Moreno (127) and Derrick ... titles for St. Patrick's down 10 seconds. Albany's Kyle ...

took over upon returning after halftime. Ke ... sian run to start ... put the game away.

"I just kept my head ... and didn't let ... she said. Dhabab ... high 21 points.

Courtney Carey had lead St. Mary's.

Salesian will travel to take on top-seeded ... semifinal tonight at 7

Panthers

FROM PAGE C1

Adriana Dominguez found her range from the outside, hitting two 3-pointers to give Salesian the lead midway through the quarter and the Chieftains never looked back.

The story of the second half was Salesian sophomore Imani Dhahabu, who was on the bench most of the second quarter with two fouls. She

Track

FROM PAGE C1

Muhammed was second in the triple jump with a mark of 46 feet, nine inches and junior Darnell Toliver finished ninth with a leap of

42-6.

Dunbar also finished ninth in the 200 with a time of 22.61.

In the girls' competition, St. Mary's Kamaiya Warren placed second in the shot put with a personal record of 44 feet, 7 inches.

Tiffany Johnson had a good meet, finishing eighth in the triple jump

with a mark of 36-21 1/2 and eighth in the 200 at 25.81.

The girls' 800 ... 1:45.5 ... the sprint medley ... 4:18.8.

Bridget Duffy placed ... 1600 with a time of 5:31.02.

Braunstein

FROM PAGE C1

No matter which teams make the boys Division 3A finals it will be a great matchup. I love the underdog and Richmond has always been that.

Aside from winning the NCS title in 1994, the Oilers have had bad luck in the playoffs in the past with quality teams. Again this year Richmond has received little attention despite playing very well. Still, if you don't play in the valley you don't get a lot of attention. As the sixth seed, Richmond earned a convincing 3-1 win over third-seeded Washington. The sixth seed was probably low for Richmond, but wins in the Oilers' league (the Bay Shore Athletic League) are not considered as valuable as Mission Valley Athletic League or EBAL wins. In a late change of venue, Richmond will play host in the semis to De La Salle, the second seed.

Richmond defeated the Spartans to win the NCS title in 1994. You never know, it could happen again.

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WEST COAST CONFERENCE

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE of California

Senior Guard Mary Volmer

Friday, February 23
Saint Mary's vs. Pepperdine - 7:35 p.m.
Saturday, February 24
Saint Mary's vs. Loyola Marymount - 7:35 p.m.

*This is the final weekend of the regular season and the last appearances at home for the seniors. Don't miss a special tribute to our four seniors before Saturday's game!

For Tickets and Info. Call (925) 631-4392
www.SMCGaels.com

GAEL BASKETBALL

CONTRA COSTA TIMES
WILLY TAYLOR, SAN RAMON; WILLY THOMAS, WEST CONCORD; HARRY

Arts

Old technique, new twist

BILL MANN

Media Notes

E-mails led to new website

Dot-Com Parting Shots: I recently joined many others who got hit by the recent dot-com bust. Online newsletter RadioDigest.com, where I had stock options, recently folded. RD.com, where I wrote the S.F. Bay Area column, was run by East Bay radio fan Jason Jackson, and ran out of funding last fall. My last column for RadioDigest recently was a rather pointed overview of the dreary state of the dismaying, increasingly pandering radio industry. It was picked up by LARadio.com, and San Jose Mercury-News radio columnist Brad Kava kindly called it a "must-read." The hundreds of e-mails I got from that column led to the creation of my new web site, mannabooks.com, where I continue to bash the post-consolidation radio (and TV) industries. A few excerpts from that last RadioDigest column:

PARTING SHOTS/BOUQUETS: As we wrap up this enterprise today, I keep thinking of Shakespearean quotes sent to me from classy and talented long-time KABL morning man Bill Moen becoming where the radio business has gone and is headed post-consolidation. "It ain't MY business anymore," said the 45-year radio veteran, a sentiment echoed by far too many vets in this increasingly bleak — and increasingly talented — business. Moen: "When we left, the door was opened for what the Sweet Swan of Avon called 'The ages of idleness, who commit the oldest sins in the newest ways.'" Quoting from Henry IV, Moen added: "Oh, my poor kingdom. Thou wilt, once again, be left to thy ancient inhabitants, the weeds."

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT DJ's: Most of them are, almost none of them are witty. Sadly, they don't know the difference. They are, by and large, decent people far too impressed with their own meager (and not uncommon) talent for talking in public. A few have actually picked up a book on their lives. They confuse glibness with talent, and ergo, they are largely interchangeable. They do one thing in common: Good tips. Many jocks call themselves "communicators," which means reading scripted bad jokes and making inane comments about current events and doing wacky recorded "bits." But what they communicate is usually their own shallowness. But much of the listening public, alas, seems content with that.

Music radio has been for over 50 years little more than an extension of that bottom-feeding entertainment known as the record business. Most of FM radio today is little more than a glorified juke-

box. Want proof? If you had tuned in during the hours just after the devastating Loma Prieta earthquake here in 1989 or the Oakland riot soon after, you would find that very few FM music stations had broken format. It was ap- palling. Pumping out familiar mu- sic to sell air time at the expense of real public service is not what FM radio was created to oversee.

WHAT RADIO TALK HOSTS AND THEIR CALLERS: Talk radio is hired to be entertainers, not for mental acuity, by all means. They are paid to be no- ticed, even (or especially) if it means being obnoxious — and we have plenty of annoying examples in the Bay Area. They are paid to be controversial, even if many of their extreme political views are di- rectly and even damaging our so- ciety (recommended reading: "The Tannen's thoughtful 'The Present Culture'" — all to get ratings and sell advertising. After 20-odd years of listening to the top-rated KGO, I can honestly say I've yet to hear anything on that station that was truly thoughtful, that con- sidered much of depth and sub- stance, or insight, not one I remem- ber simply put: Most thoughtful talk radio people — i.e., people who actually have something to say — do not call radio stations. They give a microphone to anyone — no, most — talk who includes themselves into be- lieving they are authorities, even if they are on the areas they discuss (the key word be- ing "they"). They are wrong, and they are largely ego-in-

Contemporary artists using a photo-etching method that dates back to the 19th-century

By Blair Tindall
STAFF WRITER

Miniature lighthouses, kitsch hot-dog stands, vintage photo collages and fin-de-siècle butterflies sound like a dusty journey through the attic. However, this is no nostalgia trip but a refined exhibition of 22 contemporary artists using a 19th-century etching technique called photogravure.

On display at Berkeley's Kala Art Institute, "Contemporary Photogravure" intrigues through its subject matter, both modern and historic. It's also a fine demonstration of what sets photogravure apart from other photographic processes.

Most notable about the technique is its mind-bending range of hues, from luminous whites to highly textured blacks. Bay Area photo and print aficionados may recognize the technique from the work of San Francisco's Crown Point Press, which includes photogravure among its unusual printing processes.

Kala's gallery is located at the far end of its loft workshop, where classes in printmaking — including intaglio (engraving) processes like photogravure — take place regularly. Passing by the gargantuan printing presses is a fitting introduction to this type of artmaking.

But printing is only the final step of this complex art form, whose extensive tonality has earned it accolades as "the aristocrat of photographic processes," first performed in 1832.

In short, photogravure involves a

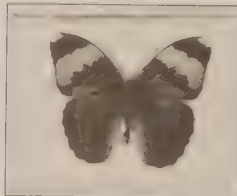


PHOTOGRAPHY ON DISPLAY includes, clockwise from left, "Morning Becomes Electra — Series" by J. Glassman, "Euphaedra neophron" by Susan Magnus, outdoor photography by Unai San Martin and "Untitled #1" by Susan Seubert.

photographic image etched onto copper and then hand-inked and run through a press like the ones at Kala. Gravure plates are made by layering

a transparency with gelatin-coated paper. The light-sensitive gelatin hard-

See PHOTO, Page C5



'Pollock' traces familiar fall

By Mary F. Pols
STAFF WRITER

There is a time of life when drunken, stoned or otherwise screwed-up artists hold a certain appeal. And then there is adulthood.

Therein lies the problem with "Pollock," Ed Harris' biographical film about Jackson Pollock, the famed abstract expressionist painter. Pollock took the art world by storm in the late 1940s, created his own unique "drip" style of painting and then followed the path of all those other troubled geniuses we've come to know from literature and life, dying a premature death, essentially at his own hand (drunken driving).

We know this story already. We've seen countless bottles of liquor upended into the mouths of geniuses. We've seen them yell at their wives,

REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "Pollock"

■ **STARRING:** Ed Harris, Marcia Gay Harden, Jennifer Connelly

■ **RATING:** R (language and brief sexuality)

■ **RUNNING TIME:** 1 hour, 57 minutes

■ **WHERE:** Opens today at the Embarcadero, S.F., and the Albany

■ **GRADE:** B-

smoke like fiends, gaze stormily out at the world. Frankly, this old tale is

See POLLOCK, Page C5



WITH "POLLOCK," Ed Harris makes the audience care about the process as well as the painter.

Belasco presents "Little Shoppe of Horrors"

Belasco Theatre Company announces a new venue for their popular youth theatre productions. Director, Edward Belasco, states that the company wants to "experience performances in a different venue, where new audiences can appreciate the energy of our shows." Belasco's all youth shows have been enjoyed for nearly two decades throughout the East Bay, primarily in the Walnut Creek area.

Belasco's unique twist is that he puts on full-length Broadway productions utilizing the talents of children ages 6-18. "You won't find us doing Peter Pan or Charlotte's Web!" says Belasco. "My kids do the real thing, and they do it like professionals. These kids can sing with the best of them, act and dance: and I always have the best people in the business for them to work with: like Lawrence Pech, the Director of the Lawrence Pech Dance Company, as our choreographer: he's the greatest!"

In recent years, Belasco's kids have traveled to San Francisco to do Guys and Dolls at the newly opened Ruby Sky. They have performed numerous times at the Dean Lesher Regional Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek. Belasco also took his talents to Oakland last year to do multi-cultural special performance of The Wiz at the Alice Arts Center. Some of the performers from that show will also be featured in this upcoming show. This year also marks the tenth consecutive year of Belasco's liberal scholarship program which allows children to participate who might otherwise not be able to be in a performing arts program. This year Be-



JENEFER TAYLOR and Dave Abrams star in Belasco Theatre's "Little Shoppe of Horrors."

lasco Theatre Company provided 11 free buses and over 1000 free tickets for school-aged children from all over the East Bay to attend the field trip performances.

Belasco's kids are high energy, spirited professionals who amaze audiences with their polished, poised performances. Audience members

are often caught after shows saying "Wow, I can't believe what I just saw: those kids were just amazing!" Not surprisingly, many of Belasco's alumni have been admitted to some of the top performing arts programs at the university level, such as Tisch School of the Performing Arts at New York University and Juilliard.

Little Shop of Horrors runs from March 9-April 1, at the Berkeley Community Little Theatre. Showtimes are Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$12 per person, through the Regional Center Box Office, or by calling 925-943-SHOW.

EVENTS

Cody's Books — Carol Field, Feb. 23, 7 p.m. The author reads from her book "Mangoes and Quince." At 1730 Fourth St.

Terry McMillan, Feb. 26. The author reads from her novel "A Day Late and a Dollar Short." At First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way. Events are free and start at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 2454 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. (510) 845-7852

Marcus Book Store — Jenoyne Adams, Feb. 23. The author discusses his novel "Resurrecting Mingus." Events are free and start at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 3900 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, Oakland. (510) 652-2344

REI Berkeley — through March 22. A series of lectures on hikes and outdoor equipment.

"Expedition Cycling: A Journey From Lhasa to Kathmandu," March 1, 7 p.m. Cyclists Leo Tennenblat and Jean Philippe Boubli share slides and stories of their 52-day adventure.

"Trekking and Travel in Northern India: Ladakh and Rajasthan," March 8, 7 p.m. A slide presentation by wilderness guide Randy Pomeroy on touring and trekking in two vastly different desert regions of northern India.

"Europe On A Shoestring," March 9, 7 p.m. Author Scott McNeely shares tips on smart budget travel on your European vacation.

"Greece: An Adventure Sampler," March 10, 1 p.m. A slide presentation by Linda Pearson introducing the unspoiled beauty of the Greek countryside.

"Travel Tips: Gearing Up for Adventure," March 10, 3 p.m. Ruth Tretbar gives some pointers on how to choose clothing and accessories for your destination and activity.

"Myanmar: The Golden Kingdom," March 15, 7 p.m. A slide presentation by Philip Hassick of Lost Frontiers introducing the unique history and culture of the country formerly known as Burma.

"Trekking in Bhutan," March 22, 7 p.m. A slide presentation by Ruth Anne Kocour and Elizabeth Rassa of their 25-day journey along the Snow Leopard Trek to the sacred mountain Chomolhari and beyond.

Free unless otherwise noted, 1338 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley. (510) 527-4140.

Grand Lake Oakland Certified Farmers Market — Ongoing. A chance to buy local organic produce and baked goods.

Free, Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. MacArthur Boulevard and Grand Avenue, Oakland. (415) 456-FARM or (800) 897-FARM.

Jack London Square Farmers Market — Ongoing. A chance to buy fresh fruits and vegetables, cut flowers, baked goods, and more. Free, Sunday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Jack London Square, foot of Broadway, Oakland. (510) 814-6000 or www.jacklondonsquare.com

Disney On Ice — "75 Years of Magic," through Feb. 25. An ice show featuring the characters from Disney movies through the years.

\$12 to \$36. Wednesday and Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Friday, 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 1:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Oakland Arena, 7000 Coliseum Way at Interstate Highway 880 and Hegenberger Road, Oakland. (510) 762-2277.

Madcat Women's Film Festival — Feb. 23, 7 p.m. A showcase of independent and experimental shorts from around the world. \$5 general; \$3 students. Danforth Hall, Art 120, Mills College, 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. (510) 636-7432.

"Conversations In Commedia" — Feb. 28, 8 p.m. A chat between San Francisco Mime Troupe founder Ron Davis and clown Wavy Gravy moderated by Joel Schechter.

\$8 general; \$6 seniors and students. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 849-2568.

UC Berkeley's Lunch Poems Reading Series — Aleida Rodriguez, March 1, 12:10 p.m. Free. Morrison Library, University of California, Bancroft Way at College Avenue, Berkeley. (510) 642-0137.

Golden Gate Geographic Society Travel Film Series — "Portugal and The Azores and Madeira" Grant Foster presents his film covering Lisbon, the Algarve, Fatima, and Batalha's and Alcobaca's. March 1, 2 p.m. and 7:45 p.m.; Rheaume Theatre, Rheaume Boulevard and Moraga Road, Moraga. March 2, 7:45 p.m.: Chabot College Performing Arts Center, 25555 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward. March 3, 2 p.m.: Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. (800) 247-GGGS.

Paramount Movie Classics Series — ongoing. The evening includes

See EVENTS, Page C5

FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

Titles and showtimes subject to change.
Call theaters for information.
Compiled by: Hollywood.com

*Wheelchair Accessible

Showtimes for Friday, February 23.

Alameda County

Act I & II

2121 Central Express, Berkeley 843-FILM
• **Chunh Yang** (R) 110, 4:10, 6:45, 9:25
• **Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon** (PG-13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45

Albany Twin

1115 Soland Avenue, Albany 843-FILM
• **In the Mood for Love** (PG) 4:00, 6:45, 9:50
• **Pollock** (R) 3:45, 6:30, 9:10

California Theatres

2113 Kirtland Street, Berkeley 843-FILM
• **Chocolat** (PG-13) 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30
• **Dull** (R) 4:10, 9:10
• **Shadow of the Vampire** (R) 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:40
• **State and Main** (R) 1:50, 6:50

Century 25 Union City Union Landing*

32100 Union Landing Road, Union City 497-8563
• **3000 Miles to Graceland** (R) 11:30 a.m., 12:30, 2:15, 3:15, 4:10, 4:55, 6:00, 7:45, 8:50, 9:45, 10:35, 11:50
• **Cast Away** (PG-13) 11:55 a.m., 3:05, 6:45, 10:05
• **Chocolat** (PG-13) 12:40, 3:55, 6:45, 9:30
• **Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon** (PG-13) noon, 1:15, 2:55, 4:10, 5:45, 7:00, 8:45, 9:55, 11:40
• **Down to Earth** (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 12:15, 12:50, 1:45, 2:30, 3:00, 3:50, 4:45, 5:15, 5:55, 6:55, 7:35, 8:05, 9:10, 9:50, 10:30, 11:35
• **Hannibal** (R) 1:40 a.m., 12:15, 1:30, 2:40, 3:15, 3:50, 4:45, 5:15, 5:55, 6:50, 7:40, 8:15, 10:30, 11:55
• **Miss Congeniality** (PG-13) 11:50 a.m., 2:25, 7:20
• **Monkeybone** (PG-13) 11:45 a.m., 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40, midnight

• **Recess: School's Out** (G) 11:30 a.m., 12:35, 1:40, 2:50, 3:45, 5:00, 5:55, 7:05, 8:00, 9:10, 10:15
• **Save the Last Dance** (PG-13) 11:40 a.m., 2:35, 5:20, 8:10, 11:00
• **Saving Silverman** (PG-13) 11:50 a.m., 4:50, 7:05, 9:35
• **Splash** (R) 2:15
• **Traffic** (R) 12:05, 3:20, 7:15, 10:20
• **Valentine** (R) 9:20, 11:35
• **The Wedding Planner** (PG-13) 12:10, 2:45, 5:25, 7:55, 10:25

• **What Women Want** (PG-13) 1:20, 4:25, 7:25, 10:15

Chabot Cinema

2653 Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley 582-5555
• **Hannibal** (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

Chabot Space & Science Center Tien MegaDome*

10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland 336-7300
• **Antarctica** (NR) 11:30 a.m., 3:00, 7:30. Showtimes subject to change.
• **Solar Max** (NR) 8:30. Showtimes subject to change.
• **To Be an Astronaut** (NR) 10:30 a.m., 1:00. Showtimes subject to change.

Elmwood

2686 College Avenue, Berkeley 649-0530
• **The Gilt** (R) 7:15
• **Meet the Parents** (PG-13) 4:45, 9:15
• **Miss Congeniality** (PG-13) 7:00
• **Requiem for a Dream** (NR) 4:40, 9:35
• **Thirteen Days** (PG-13) 6:45
• **Wonder Boys** (R) 5:00, 9:30

Fine Arts Cinema - Berkeley*

2451 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley 848-1143
• **Autumn Tale** (G) 9:25
• **Close to Love** (NR) 7:30

Grand Lake Theater

3200 Grand Avenue, Oakland 462-3556
• **Chocolat** (PG-13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:35
• **Hannibal** (R) 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 9:45
• **Monkeybone** (PG-13) 1:00, 3:15, 6:30, 9:00, 10:00, 11:00
• **Traffic** (R) 12:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00

Jack London Cinema*

101 Washington Street, Oakland 432-1220
• **3000 Miles to Graceland** (R) 11:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:40, 2:10, 4:30, 5:20, 7:20, 7:50, 10:10, 10:40
• **Down to Earth** (PG-13) 11:05 a.m., 1:10, 3:30, 5:45, 8:10, 10:30
• **Hannibal** (R) 10:45 a.m., 1:35, 4:30, 7:35, 9:45, 10:45
• **Recess: School's Out** (G) 11:50 a.m., 2:05, 4:20, 7:00
• **Save the Last Dance** (PG-13) 11:25 a.m., 2:15, 4:55, 7:45, 10:35
• **Sweet November** (PG-13) 11:10 a.m., 1:50, 4:35, 7:25, 10:15
• **Traffic** (R) noon, 3:15, 7:05, 10:20
• **The Wedding Planner** (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., 1:55, 4:25, 7:10, 10:05

Mann Festival 9 Cinemas Hayward*

19901 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward 789-8000
• **Chocolat** (PG-13) 1:30, 4:25, 7:25, 10:10
• **Double Take** (PG-13) 10:15
• **Down to Earth** (PG-13) noon, 1:15, 2:15, 4:00, 4:30, 7:00, 7:20, 9:30, 10:00
• **The Emperor's New Groove** (G) 1:10, 3:10, 5:10
• **Finding Forrester** (PG-13) 7:20, 10:20
• **Monkeybone** (PG-13) 12:30, 2:45, 5:15, 8:00, 10:30
• **Recess: School's Out** (G) 12:45, 4:30, 5:10, 7:45
• **Save the Last Dance** (PG-13) 1:20, 4:10, 5:50, 8:40
• **Sweet November** (PG-13) 1:50, 4:50, 7:50, 10:25
• **The Wedding Planner** (PG-13) 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:35

NAZ 8

39400 Applegate Way, Fremont 797-2000
Call theater for schedule

Oaks Theater*

1675 Soland Avenue, Berkeley 526-1266
• **The Emperor's New Groove** (G) 6:00
• **Splash** (R) 7:30, 9:35
• **Sweet November** (PG-13) 7:00, 9:25

Piedmont Theatre

4165 Piedmont Avenue, Oakland 843-FILM
• **Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon** (PG-13) 4:15, 7:00, 9:40
• **Shadow of the Vampire** (R) 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30
• **You Can Count on Me** (R) 4:05, 6:45, 9:15

Shattuck Cinemas*

2230 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley 843-FILM
• **Before Night Falls** (R) 2:00, 5:00, 8:00
• **Best in Show** (PG-13) 4:25, 6:10, 8:00, 10:00
• **Billy Elliot** (R) 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30
• **Finding Forrester** (PG-13) 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:25
• **The House of Mirth** (PG) 1:50, 5:10, 8:10
• **Malena** (R) 1:05, 3:15, 5:15, 7:25, 9:45
• **Recess: School's Out** (G) 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:40, 8:40
• **The Wedding Planner** (PG-13) 2:10, 4:40, 7:00, 9:40
• **Yi Yi (A One and a Two)** (NR) 12:35, 8:15
• **You Can Count on Me** (R) 1:45, 4:15, 6:50, 9:15

UA Berkeley 7

2274 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley 843-1487
• **3000 Miles to Graceland** (R) 11:45 a.m., 2:30, 5:20, 8:05, 10:50
• **Cast Away** (PG-13) 12:10, 3:15, 7:10, 10:20
• **Down to Earth** (PG-13) 12:05, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:45
• **Hannibal** (R) noon, 12:55, 3:00, 4:40, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 10:55
• **Monkeybone** (PG-13) 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:45, 10:10
• **Traffic** (R) 12:45, 4:15, 7:30, 10:40

UA Emerybay 10

6300 Christie Avenue, Emeryville 420-0107
• **3000 Miles to Graceland** (R) 10:40 a.m., 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:10, 12:30 a.m.
• **Chocolat** (PG-13) 10:30 a.m., 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
• **Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon** (PG-13) 10:40 a.m., 1:25, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50, 12:30 a.m.
• **Down to Earth** (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10, 12:30 a.m.
• **Hannibal** (R) 10:45 a.m., 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 9:40, 10:45, 12:30 a.m.
• **Monkeybone** (PG-13) 10:30 a.m., 12:45, 3:05, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15, 12:30 a.m.
• **Recess: School's Out** (G) 10:35 a.m., 12:40, 2:55, 5:15, 7:30
• **Splash** (R) noon, 2:30, 5:30, 8:10, 10:40
• **Sweet November** (PG-13) 11:00 a.m., 2:30, 5:00, 8:00, 10:40
• **Traffic** (R) 12:15, 3:45, 7:20, 10:30

UA Hayward 6

24900 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward 786-3000
• **3000 Miles to Graceland** (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 10:15
• **Cast Away** (PG-13) 1:20, 3:45, 7:00, 9:50
• **Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon** (PG-13) 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:20
• **Hannibal** (R) 1:10, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30
• **Miss Congeniality** (PG-13) 2:30, 7:20
• **Saving Silverman** (PG-13) 12:10, 5:00, 9:45

*Traffic (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:00

UC Theatre

2505 University Avenue, Berkeley 843-FILM
• **Pala X** (NR) 4:15, 7:00, 9:40

Central Contra Costa

Crow Canyon 6

2525 San Ramon Valley Boulevard, San Ramon 820-4831
• **Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon** (PG-13) 1:45, 4:25, 7:10, 9:45
• **Finding Forrester** (PG-13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:20, 10:15
• **Monkeybone** (PG-13) 11:45 a.m., 2:15, 4:40, 7:00, 9:15
• **O Brother, Where Art Thou?** (PG-13) 12:15, 2:40, 5:10, 7:45, 10:00
• **Recess: School's Out** (G) 11:30 a.m., 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30
• **Saving Silverman** (PG-13) 9:30
• **Sweet November** (PG-13) noon, 2:30, 5:00, 7:35, 10:10

Festival Walnut Creek

1450 North California Blvd., Walnut Creek 934-8649
• **Down to Earth** (PG-13) 11:45 a.m., 2:15, 4:55, 7:30, 9:40
• **Hannibal** (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
• **Sweet November** (PG-13) noon, 2:30, 5:00, 7:35, 10:10

Park Theater

3510 Park Street, Moraga 969-3411
• **3000 Miles to Graceland** (R) 4:30, 7:15, 9:40
• **Chocolat** (PG-13) 6:45, 9:15
• **The Emperor's New Groove** (G) 6:00
• **You Can Count on Me** (R) 7:30, 9:35, 7:30, 9:35

Rheem All-Stadium 4

350 Park Street, Moraga 969-3411
• **3000 Miles to Graceland** (R) 4:30, 7:15, 9:40
• **Down to Earth** (PG-13) 5:50, 7:45, 9:30
• **Hannibal** (R) 4:45, 7:30, 10:00
• **Traffic** (R) 4:00, 7:00, 9:45

West Contra Costa

Century 10 Pinole

1451 Tilden Drive, Pinole 222-8030
• **3000 Miles to Graceland** (R) 11:30 a.m., 2:20, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30
• **Chocolat** (PG-13) 11:55 a.m., 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25
• **Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon** (PG-13) 11:40 a.m., 2:15, 4:55, 7:35, 10:15
• **Down to Earth** (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 1:35, 3:45, 5:50, 8:00, 10:10
• **Monkeybone** (PG-13) 11:45 a.m., 2:00, 4:25, 7:00, 9:25
• **Recess: School's Out** (G) 11:35 a.m., 1:40, 3:40, 5:45, 7:55, 10:05
• **Sweet November** (PG-13) 11:50 a.m., 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:45
• **The Wedding Planner** (PG-13) 12:05, 2:30, 5:05, 7:25, 9:50

San Francisco

AMC 1000 Van Ness

1000 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco 415/922-44MC
• **3000 Miles to Graceland** (R) 12:45, 1:40, 4:05, 5:10, 7:10, 8:10, 10:05, 11:10, 12:35 a.m.
• **Chocolat** (PG-13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:20, 10:15
• **Down to Earth** (PG-13) 12:40, 3:35, 5:30, 7:55, 10:20, 12:40 a.m.
• **Hannibal** (R) 12:15, 1:30, 3:30, 4:40, 7:00, 7:50, 10:10, 11:20
• **The Plague** (R) 9:45
• **Recess: School's Out** (G) 1:00, 3:15, 5:35, 7:55
• **Saving Silverman** (PG-13) 1:50, 4:25, 7:15, 9:40
• **Splash** (R) 1:45, 4:55, 8:00, 10:40
• **Sweet November** (PG-13) 1:10, 2:00, 4:10, 4:50, 7:05, 7:45, 9:55, 10:45
• **Thirteen Days** (PG-13) 12:55, 4:20, 7:40, 11:05
• **Traffic** (R) 12:25, 4:00, 7:25, 10:55
• **The Wedding Planner** (PG-13) 1:20, 4:35, 7:30, 10:35

AMC Kabuki 8

1881 Post Street, San Francisco 415/922-44MC
• **3000 Miles to Graceland** (R) 12:45, 1:40, 4:05, 5:10, 7:10, 8:10, 10:05, 11:10, 12:35 a.m.
• **Chocolat** (PG-13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:20, 10:15
• **Down to Earth** (PG-13) 12:40, 3:35, 5:30, 7:55, 10:20, 12:40 a.m.
• **Hannibal** (R) 12:15, 1:30, 3:30, 4:40, 7:00, 7:50, 10:10, 11:20
• **The Plague** (R) 9:45
• **Recess: School's Out** (G) 1:00, 3:15, 5:35, 7:55
• **Saving Silverman** (PG-13) 1:50, 4:25, 7:15, 9:40
• **Splash** (R) 1:45, 4:55, 8:00, 10:40
• **Sweet November** (PG-13) 1:10, 2:00, 4:10, 4:50, 7:05, 7:45, 9:55, 10:45
• **Thirteen Days** (PG-13) 12:55, 4:20, 7:40, 11:05
• **Traffic** (R) 12:25, 4:00, 7:25, 10:55
• **The Wedding Planner** (PG-13) 1:20, 4:35, 7:30, 10:35

Bridge

3010 Geary Blvd., San Francisco 415/352-0810
• **O Brother, Where Art Thou?** (PG-13) 2:15, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45

Castro Theatre

Castro Street & Market Streets, San Francisco 415/921-6120
• **The Sound of Music** (1959) (G) 7:30, Sing A Long Version

Clay

2261 Fillmore Street, San Francisco 415/352-0810
• **In the Mood for Love** (PG) noon, 2:30, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20

Embarcadero

1 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco 415/352-0810
• **The House of Mirth** (PG) 12:15, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30
• **Pellock** (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45, 12:45, 5:30, 8:30
• **State and Main** (R) 12:30, 3:00, 7:30, 9:30
• **You Can Count on Me** (R) 1:15, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

Lumiere

1572 California Street, San Francisco 415/352-0810
• **Before Night Falls** (R) 12:30, 3:30, 6:45, 9:30
• **The Last Days** (PG-13) 12:50, 2:45, 5:20, 7:40, 9:50
• **Requiem for a Dream** (NR) 12:15, 2:45, 5:10, 7:30, 9:55

Opera Plaza Cinemas

601 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco 415/352-0810
• **Best in Show** (PG-13) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:55
• **Billy Elliot** (R) 11:10, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:45
• **Malena** (R) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:40
• **Quills** (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40

Red Vic

1277 Haight Street, San Francisco 415/683-3994
• **Enter the Dragon** (R) 7:15, 9:25

Roxie

3117 16th Street, San Francisco 415/863-1087
• **The Million Dollar Hotel** (R) 7:00, 9:20

Sony Metreon

101 4th Street, San Francisco 415/369-6200
• **3000 Miles to Graceland** (R) 12:20, 3:25, 6:40, 9:40
• **Cast Away** (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 2:50, 6:10, 9:50
• **Chocolat** (PG-13) 10:45 a.m., 1:40, 4:40, 7:30, 10:30
• **Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon** (PG-13) 12:40, 3:50, 7:10, 9:00, 10:20
• **Down to Earth** (PG-13) 12:50, 3:40, 6:30, 9:00, 11:30
• **Hannibal** (R) 1:00, 4:20, 6:50, 7:40, 9:20, 11:30
• **Monkeybone** (PG-13) 12:10, 2:45, 5:40, 8:30, 11:10
• **Recess: School's Out** (G) 11:30 a.m., 2:00, 4:30, 7:00
• **Save the Last Dance** (PG-13) 11:00 a.m., 1:50, 4:50, 7:50, 10:50
• **Saving Silverman** (PG-13) 10:30 a.m., 12:45, 3:20, 9:30, 11:55
• **Shadow of the Vampire** (R) 10:40 a.m., 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 8:10, 11:40
• **Splash** (R) 11:20 a.m., 2:10, 5:10, 8:00, 10:40
• **Sweet November** (PG-13) 1:20, 4:25, 7:20, 10:35
• **Traffic** (R) 10:50 a.m., 2:20, 5:20, 10:10
• **The Wedding Planner** (PG-13) 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:10, 10:50

Sony Metreon IMAX

101 4th Street, San Francisco 415/369-6200
• **Cirque Du Soleil - Journey of Man** (G) 10:40 a.m., 1:00, 8:00
• **Cyberworld** (G) 3:30
• **Hunted Castle** (NR) 11:45 a.m., 2:15, 7:20, midnight
• **Michael Jordan** (R) 4:50

UA Galaxy

1285 Union Street, San Francisco 415/474-8700
• **Cast Away** (PG-13) 12:30, 3:00, 7:00, 10:00
• **Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon** (PG-13) 11:00 a.m., 1:45, 7:15, 10:10
• **Monkeybone** (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 1:45, 7:30, 9:45
• **Shadow of the Vampire** (R) 11:00 a.m., 1:30, 7:00, 9:45



THE FINAL DAY: The students in Miss Grotke's fourth-grade class rejoice on the last day of school in "Recess: School's Out."

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. The reviewers are: Chuck Barney, Vera H-C Chan, Karen Hershenson and Mary Pols, Times; Ted Anthony, Robert W. Butler, Phoebe Flowers, Chris Hewitt, J. Monaghan, Robert Philpot, Steven Rea, Carrie Rickey, Renee Rodriguez, Desmond Ryan and Rasmi Simhan, Knight Ridder Newspapers; Anthony Brzezinski, Matt Crenson, David Germain, Chris Gygliel, Hilal Imlir, Michael Kuchwara, Christy Lemire, Sheila Norman-Culp, Malcolm Ritter, Bob

Reviews

FROM PAGE C4

roads of Mississippi in the middle of the Depression. Based on "The Grapes of Wrath," references are fairly scarce. The book is fantastic, so are the movies, and you'll want to make a return trip to watch all the jokes. And there's a wood chipper in sight. — M. Pols. (R: strong violence and language.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. A-

"THE PLEDGE": Director Sean Penn's production won him an incredible cast, including Jack Nicholson, Benicio Del Toro, Vanessa Redgrave, Helen Mirren, and John Sheppard, but neither he nor they were involved in making this bleak, slow-moving thriller work. The root of the problem is a lousy story line, with ill-logic, leaps and holes. Nicholson plays a retiring police detective who takes on a last case involving a serial child molester and killer. The cops think the molester is dead and buried, Nicholson says he's still out there. Along the way he befriends a down-on-his-luck waitress played by Robin Wright Penn, who just happens to have a little who fits the killer's preferred profile. Right, right. — M. Pols. (R: strong violence and language.) 2 hours, 4 minutes. C

"QUILLS": Bay Area filmmaker Philip Johnston returns to directing after a two-year absence with a big splash, a movie about the Marquis de Sade who has best-picture nomination written all over it. Geoffrey Rush ("Shine") plays the infamous pornographer, who has been imprisoned in an insane asylum. He keeps churning out the porn, which is smuggled out to his publisher by a comedy laundress, played by Kate Winslet. The movie feels almost like a joke until the Marquis' quills (his pens) are taken from him by a doctor. Johnston's Michael Caine who plans to "cure" him of his sickness, and everything goes dark and tragic. You won't see a lot of actors at work this time. — M. Pols. (R: strong sexual content, including dialogue, violence and language.) 2 hours, 3 minutes. A

"SUCCESS: SCHOOL'S OUT": Based on a TV show (and it shows), this mildly entertaining cartoon finds a group of teenagers uncovering a plan to eliminate summer vacation. There are a few funny moments, but the animation quality is poor and the two-dimensional characters are rather boring. — R. Mann. (G) 1 hour, 28 minutes. D+

"REQUIEM FOR A DREAM": Very, very hard but hard to recommend, because watching it is such a brutal experience. Based loosely on the Hubert Selby novel of the same name, "Requiem" is a hard look at drug addiction. The story is a lonely Guy Island who gets hooked on diet pills, then also plays her son, who, along with girlfriend Jennifer Connelly and her friend Marlon Wayans, is addicted to heroin. Director Darren Aronofsky plays a series of visual tricks on creatively, he's on fire, and so are the actors. — M. Pols. (NR: extreme drug use, some nudity and some sexual references.) 1 hour, 42 minutes. A

"HAVE THE LAST DANCE": A formulaic dance picture that's buoyed by the erotic performances of its two leads, Sean Patrick Thomas and Julia Stiles. There are a few engaging lines spread throughout, but for the most part it's a punch-the-numbers affair. An aspiring ballerina (Stiles) leaves a town after her mother's death and becomes involved with a man who's out of the dance at a hip-hop club. The chemistry between Stiles and Thomas is good, but the film's overloaded with music. — D. Germain. (PG-13: violence, sexual content, language and drug references.) 1 hour, 53 minutes. C-

"SAVING SILVERMAN": Surprisingly, the comedy about inhuman cruelty

works because it has a heart. The heart is mostly shriveled, black and evil, though, as two chums help their morose pal (Jason Biggs) pick up a beautiful woman. She (Amanda Peet) turns out to be evil incarnate. Yet "Saving Silverman" rejects pessimism, and every character, no matter how despicable at the start, gets a chance at a happy ending. — A. Breznican. (PG-13: language, comic violence and some sexuality.) 1 hour, 31 minutes. B

"SHADOW OF THE VAMPIRE": A strange, occasionally ravishing movie about the making of the first cinematic vampire film, F.W. Murnau's silent flick "Nosferatu." Don't go expecting, however, a literal "making-of" film. Director E. Elias Merhige has a little fun with the story, making the "Nosferatu" star (played well by Willem Dafoe) a real vampire. "Shadow of the Vampire" tries, with mixed success, to be scary, funny and profound. It is, for one thing, an extended essay, alternately grating and provocative, on the metaphysics of moviemaking. — A.O. Scott. (R: brief nudity, some drug use and the consumption of large quantities of blood.) 1 hour, 34 minutes. B

"SNATCH": Guy Ritchie's latest is a glib, briskly written and edited caper flick that features Brad Pitt's most entertaining performance since "12 Monkeys." Funny, then, how eminently forgettable it is. The talented Ritchie is like a kid who can't stop playing a video game he really likes, even though he's already top-scorer. — M. Pols. (R: strong violence, language, some nudity.) 1 hour, 44 minutes. B

"SUGAR & SPICE": A witless rehash of the summer's cheerleader comedy "Bring It On." Smart-mouthed pep squad members stick up a grocery-store bank branch when the perky squad captain (Marley Shelton) gets pregnant by the star quarterback. That's about it for the plot, as the film slips into a comatose state, where sardonic wit is nowhere to be found. It's simply over-the-top, forced humor. — C. Lemire. (PG-13: language, sex-related humor and some thematic elements.) 1 hour, 20 minutes. F

"SWEET NOVEMBER": Nelson (Keanu Reeves) moves in with Sara (Charlize Theron) for a month of experimental love and life instruction. We understand his motivation, but hers is a bit sketchy, until you notice that the normally hearty Theron is looking a bit too skinny and wan. On the standard movie scale, this is a pretty dreadful movie, borrowing heavily from the more manipulative elements of "Love Story" and the more twisted aspects of the male-female relationship in "Pretty Woman," with a splash of "Dharma & Greg" cuteness. But as escapism, it's rather gloriously trashy. Both stars are appealing, the San Francisco setting looks great, and it's a guilty pleasure to watch two people fall in love the way they only do in the movies. (Calgon, take me away!) — M. Pols. (PG-13: sexuality and some language.) 1 hour, 54 minutes. C-

"THIRTEEN DAYS": Looks can be deceiving. What could have been a stale history lesson on the Cuban missile crisis is transformed into a thoroughly satisfying and absorbing movie. Even though we all know the outcome, "Thirteen Days" is an attention-grabber that hums along almost like a good thriller. Kevin Costner is the weak link as the presidential aide involved in the crisis. Much better are Bruce Greenwood as JFK and Steven Culp as RFK. A tense film that's directed with clean snapiness by Roger Donaldson ("No Way Out"). — M. Pols. (PG-13: language, images of nuclear destruction.) 2 hours, 18 minutes. A-

"TRAFFIC": Steven Soderbergh's epic story of the drug war in American is, hands down, the best movie of the year. It hits every angle, from Benicio Del Toro's striking turn as an honest Mexi-

can policeman in a sea of corruption to Michael Douglas' role as America's newest drug czar, a man too intent on the bigger battle to realize his teen-age daughter is dipping into hard drugs. We even met up with a drug kingpin and his pregnant wife (Catherine Zeta-Jones). This is a B+ movie, challenging and deeply rewarding. The ensemble cast is absolutely mind-blowing, and so is the dexterity with which Soderbergh both wields his camera and weaves a fascinating story. — M. Pols. (R: pervasive drug use, strong language, violence and some sexuality.) 2 hours, 27 minutes. A

"VALENTINE": Five young women receive threatening valentines in this astonishingly feeble slasher film that doesn't even bother to follow through on its own concept. A tank-top-clad Denise Richards plays one of the five women, who gets the dreaded valentine — possibly from a geek the young women had terrorized in junior high school. Everyone involved will likely regret that they made this one. — C. Hewitt. (R: bloody violence and surprisingly tame sex and language.) 1 hour, 30 minutes. F

"THE WEDDING PLANNER": Jennifer Lopez really shows off a delightful comedic talent as Mary Fiore, who pulls off opulent matrimonial ceremonies with the military precision of an army general, the technology of a concert promoter and the soft-spoken grace of an ambassador. She finds herself falling in love with pediatrician Matthew McConaughey, who rescues her from a runaway trash bin, until she discovers he's the fiancé of her wealthy client, Fran (Bridgette Wilson-Sampras). Keenly funny moments and a kinder, less vindictive approach to resolving intersecting love triangles make this romantic comedy glitter in its genre. — V. Chan. (PG-13: language and some sexual humor.) 1 hour, 40 minutes. B+

"WHAT WOMEN WANT": Ignore the crass trailers. Mel Gibson's comic venture argues for the return of the musical. Although directed by Nancy Meyers, this covert operation of the sexes in pre-1965 Hollywood style is by no means a women's film. Gibson, though, manages to pull it off as a son of a showgirl and an arrogant character who, in an accident, acquires the ability to overhear women's thoughts. After his initial bewilderment horror, he uses it to compete with his new boss (Helen Hunt). The wrap-up's rhythm is rushed and (expectedly) hokey, but the operation before then is mostly a diverting success. — V. Chan. (PG-13: sexual content and language.) 2 hours, 3 minutes. B+

"YI YI": The full measure of life's many confusions is the subject of "Yi Yi," Edward Yang's long, sprawling and masterful study of a contemporary Taiwanese family. Yang deftly places the personal dramas within informing social and expressive aesthetic contexts. — B. Strauss. (Not rated.) 2 hours, 53 minutes. A

"YOU CAN COUNT ON ME": Kenneth Lonergan makes a strong debut as writer/director in this offbeat movie about the bond between brothers and sisters. Sammy (Laura Linney) and Terry (Mark Ruffalo) were orphaned as young kids, and their lives have taken very different paths. Sammy works at the local bank and has never left home (she lives in their parents' house with her 8-year-old son), while Terry is an aimless drifter. The movie looks at what happens when Terry comes home for a visit and the two are reunited. Co-winner of this year's Grand Jury Prize at Sundance, this is a small movie that parks itself in your brain and refuses to depart. Linney and Ruffalo are both outstanding, and Matthew Broderick shines (as usual) in a small part. — M. Pols. (R: language, some sexuality and drug use.) 1 hour, 32 minutes. A-

are story-line glitches throughout the movie, elements that feel left out or perhaps edited out, particularly so near the end of the movie when Pollock resumes drinking and takes to cavorting with a gorgeous young woman, Ruth Klugman (Jennifer Connelly). Not that we ever thought Pollock was a perfect husband, but it's still a shocker when suddenly he's got a mistress.

We have no notion of how they got together, or who Ruth is — we're not even told that she was an aspiring artist — and that's material too important to gloss over. Connelly actually appears in the first scene of the movie, handing a copy of a Life magazine article to him to be photographed, but it's such a fleeting moment it's unlikely many will notice, and since she and Pollock don't speak in that scene, it certainly doesn't enlighten us as to the origins of their affair.

Perhaps Harris was running out of money (he sank a lot of his own cash into "Pollock"), or perhaps he needed to trim the movie to two hours. Either way, one gets the sense that Harris started rushing toward the end of the film. The story starts to feel more like a sketch of a life than a real piece of biography, with sudden weight gain standing in for exposition. Had Harris made "Pollock" for PBS or HBO, the movie wouldn't have had quite the panache, or for that matter, the Oscar nominations, but it might have had the room to stretch out to its full glory.

Photo

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ens to various thicknesses depending on the amount of light penetrating the transparency.

The transparency is then immersed in acid, which bites into the plate at different depths — causing fields of dark and light. Once the copper plate is cleaned, it is ready for printing, where the ink becomes imbedded in 100 percent rag paper. The finished product is not instant — the artist approves only after multiple trial proofs have been produced.

Along with firmly established photogravurists, the exhibition includes newcomers to the art. The show's organizer, Kala artist-in-residence Unai San Martin, chose artists such as Thayer Allison Gowdy, Noah Lang and Ron Saunders, who were first introduced to photogravure at Kala.

The well-known photogravure artists featured include Lothar Oesterberg, who was formerly the photogravure printer at Crown Point Press, which printed the works of Ed Ruscha and Gay Outlaw seen in this

EXHIBIT PREVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "Contemporary Photogravure" exhibition

■ **WHERE:** Kala Art Institute, 100 Heinz Ave., Berkeley

■ **WHEN:** Through March 30; noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday

■ **HOW MUCH:** Free

■ **CALL:** 510-549-2978

exhibition.

Oesterberg's "Tide Pool Light" first appears as a historic New England coastal landscape. But gallerygoers delighted in sleuthing Oesterberg's trick — the imposing lighthouse was nothing but a toy teetering on tidal algae, with tiny bubbles standing in for kelp. Similarly deceptive was Susan Magnus' sequence of three butterflies, culled from a real-life collection donated by a 19th-century female biologist. Magnus played on fears of colossal predators and doom, enhancing the creatures with dark exposure and

enlargement.

Adhering to the era, Thea Schrack layered sepia-toned photos of a baronial driveway with an enigmatic, retreating woman. And San Martin's own "Road to Muir Beach" summoned a primeval forest.

The contemporary angle includes Ruscha's "Section 22," with its stark, vertical lines, Lang's "Doggie Diner," featuring an inanimate fast-food critter, and Outlaw's weirdly embryonic "Rubber Ducky."

A few pieces embrace both centuries, such as Allison Gowdy's blurred "Merry Widow," plus Ron Sanders' timeless uniform "Zebra Leaves."

The overall effect of "Contemporary Photogravure" leaves the viewer with a sense of the past, of a deeper vision and more detailed eye than seen with modern photography. If the works appeal, Kala offers an opportunity to learn more.

In addition to its gallery, the Kala Art Institute runs classes for children and adults, lectures, tours, fellowships and low-cost residences. For more information, call 510-549-2978 or visit www.kala.org.

Mann

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volved know-it-alls. Most of these people — KQED's Michael Krasny is a rare exception — wouldn't know depth and class if it bit them in the a—. Not surprisingly, talk hosts don't realize how low their profession is held in regard by thinking, evolved people. They are celebrities on the order of rodeo clowns. Talk radio today is no longer a place for a serious discussion about anything of substance. Which is just as well, because almost all of the people on talk radio have little of interest to say when they're off the air: What you hear is pretty much what you get. If music radio is a jukebox, talk radio is a glorified soap box, an outsized megaphone for half-baked, third-rate opinions. And sports-talk radio is even more dismal.

BOUQUETS: There are still talented, hard-working people in the business — both on the air, in sales, and in management — but their numbers are rapidly decreasing as consolidation by the likes of

Clear Channel (1175 stations and counting) reduces headcount and chases many of the best and brightest out of the business in disgust. We will continue to root for the likes of Berkeley's KBLX, the last major stand-alone station left, and even for the likes of way-out-in-left-field KPFA, which at least offers alternatives to the generic pap coming from the conglomerate stations. All-news KCBS, despite shrinking budgets, is also a rare bright spot. But any industry can't lose many Al Harts — not that there ARE that many — and not be degraded. And if there is one word that accurately describes radio today, it is precisely that: Degraded.

Reruns, anyone?: Not that things have been much better in television. This may be the worst TV season in recent memory, and reader after reader has told me the only show they can comfortably watch any more is NBC's first-rate "West Wing."

But, starting next week, you'll be seeing mostly reruns of "West Wing" until May, and if the Hollywood writer's strike happens, even fewer first-run episodes will air — the nets want to stockpile fresh

programs for next fall.

Speaking of "West Wing," this prediction: In 2-3 years, series star Martin Sheen, who plays principled Pres. Josiah Bartlet, will be mentioned frequently as a Demo V.P. or even Presidential candidate. (We've nominated actors before.) And how's this for a strong Democratic ticket: Sheen and straight-talking former Texas Gov. Ann Richards? Richards was also recently seen on a first-rate TV show, Fox's well-written "King of the Hill." That show celebrates its 100th show this Sunday with a funny episode starring guest voice Renee Zellweger.

Pardon My Cynicism: But is it only a coincidence that the lightning strike on KGO-TV sports anchor Martin Wyatt's Oakland home happened on the last week of ratings sweeps? Wyatt got mentioned over the videotape on all Channel 7's major competitors. I mean, I've heard of sweeps stunts, but this is ridiculous.

(Questions, comments? E-mail Bill at Newsman@sonic.net.)

Events

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a classic movie, walk-in music from the Wurflitzer organ, a newsreel, cartoon, movie previews and the Paramount prize give-away game "Deco-O-Win." Call for schedule.

■ **On Golden Pond,** March 2, 8 p.m. Henry Fonda and Katherine Hepburn are a retired couple spending their 48th summer at their country home.

■ **\$5, 2025 Broadway, Oakland, (510) 465-6400 or (925) 762-2277.**

Paramount Theatre Tour — March 3 and March 17, 10 a.m. The historic Paramount Theatre is a restored art deco masterpiece from the movie palace era. The two-hour tour covers areas not usually accessible to the public. Cameras are allowed. Children must be at least 10 years old and accompanied by an adult. Meet at the 21st Street entrance.

■ **\$1, 2025 Broadway, Oakland, (510) 465-6400 or www.paramounttheatre.com**

The 41st Annual "White Elephant Sale" — March 3 and March 4. This huge sale of absolutely everything is divided into 18 selling departments in a block-wide warehouse. Here one can find items ranging from a pair of 1930s antique dancing shoes in good condition to a beautiful Victorian dollhouse to top of the line exercise equipment. Unique offerings include a complete French fencing outfit, an art deco silver cigarette box, a set of colorful 1930s children's circus blocks and a beautiful Peruvian shawl. Monkeys raised benefit the Oakland Museum's exhibits and activities. Children must be accompanied by an adult and no strollers or shopping carts are permitted. A shuttle bus will be available between the Fruitvale BART Station and the White Elephant Warehouse.

Free admission. Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The White Elephant Warehouse, 333 Lancaster St., Oakland, (510) 536-6800.

A.C.C.I. Gallery — "My Bulgaria," closing Feb. 28. A cultural exhibit of children's art from Bulgaria.

Free. Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1652 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 843-2527.

Alice Arts Center — "Zonguldak," closing Feb. 28. An exhibit of works by Julia Kay, Frost Newton and Patrick O'Kiersey. Free. On view 24 hours daily in the front windows. 1428 Alice St., Oakland. (510) 238-4948.

Asia Pacific Cultural Center — "Limited Edition: Recent Work by Emerging Asian Pacific American Artists," March 3 through May 24. Featuring the work of eight local

artists. Free. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 388 Ninth St., Suite 290, Oakland. (510) 208-6088.

California College Of Arts And Crafts

"Contemporary Cabinet of Curiosities: Selections from the Vicki and Kent Logan Collection," closing March 3. This exhibit offers a collection evocative of wunderkammer, the 17th century "cabinet of wonders" that preceded the modern museum.

Free. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Oliver Art Center, 5212 Broadway, Oakland. (415) 551-9210.

Creative Growth Art Center — "King Louis and The Queen of Hearts," closing March 2. A solo retrospective of works by Louis Estape. "Mask," closing March 2. An exhibit of the 2001 Limited Edition Print Portfolio. "Memoriam," closing March 2. A memorial exhibit of works by Manuel Correa, Kim Rossi and Nelson Tygart.

Free. Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 355 24th St., Oakland. (510) 836-2340.

Emery Station — "The Emeryville Project," through March 30. An exhibit of works by Jean Collier Hubert.

Free. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. 5858 Horton St., Emeryville.

Holy Names College Kennedy Art Center Gallery —

"Fresh Air: Landscapes and Still Lifes by June Felter," through April 12. Free. Wednesday through Sunday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. 3500 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. (510) 436-1457.

Kala Art Institute —

"Contemporary Photogravure," through March 30. An exhibit of works by various artists.

Free. Tuesday through Friday, noon to 5 p.m. Workshop Media Center Gallery, 1060 Heinz Ave., Berkeley. (510) 549-2977.

New Pieces Gallery —

"Evolution," closing March 1. An exhibit of works by No Problem Quilters.

"Circle of the Transforming Art Dolls," closing March 1. An exhibit of works by Phoebe's Doll Exchange.

Free. Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5

Pollock

FROM PAGE C3

ing a little tedious, because it always turns out the same way. That's not to say that Harris, who spent 10 years on this project and dishes as well as stars, doesn't tell it with great attention to detail and an extremely deep passion. He's done what he can to squash about a dozen years of Pollock's messy life into a feature form. He also acts the heck out of part of Pollock (for which he's deserved Oscar nomination), and has surrounded himself with an impressive cast of supporting players, including Oscar-nominated Marisa Tomei ("Space Cowboys," "The Black Cat").

Harris takes on a huge burden in playing Pollock's wife, Lee Krasner. She recognizes his talent, takes him under her wing and eventually forsakes her own painting to promote his art. The film starts to demand the time they first meet, and it gets a grating New York accent, and Krasner, she's always jawing at Pollock about his work. Look at it, she quizzes him about what he's trying to do, then falls back on a bunch of theoretical mumbo jumbo. It's meant to think she's incapable of analyzing his work; she's too busy being a mother in relation to the canon of the time.

But Krasner is certain that Pol-

lock is a genius, and she makes it her life goal to make sure the rest of the world recognizes his talent. She's the ultimate stage mom, with all the baggage that comes with it. When she and Harris square off to show us Pollock and Krasner fighting, you want to duck and cover: It's that ugly. It's all meat, and she digs into it ferociously. She's been nominated in the best supporting actress category, but it's arguable that this is more of a starring role than a supporting one.

Harris has done a masterful job of portraying an artist at work. When he puts on a coat and heads out to the barn to paint in the winter chill, you're genuinely looking forward to seeing what he's going to create. These are the movie's strongest moments.

The sequence where he creates a 20-foot canvas for cranky Peggy Guggenheim (beautifully played by Amy Madigan, Harris' wife in real life) is just fantastic. Pollock sits still, staring at a blank canvas, then erupts like an acrobat. What Harris does with these scenes is make us care, not just about the process or about the painter, but about the painting itself. When the camera pans across a gallery full of finished works, we feel a surge of pride for what we've seen created. That's a tribute to Harris' loving filmmaking. But beside the predictable arc of the "Behind the Painting" plot, there



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EVAN MEYER General Manager
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Foreign & Domestic



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Asia Pacific Cultural Center
"Limited Edition: Recent Work by Emerging Asian Pacific American Artists," March 3 through May 24. Featuring the work of eight local

Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

Children

The Buddy Club Children's Show, featuring magician, ventriloquist, juggler and escape artist Ace Miles, takes place at 11 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 25 at the Albany Community Center Theater, 1249 Marin Ave. Buddy Club shows are targeted for children ages 2 through 12 and their parents and include audience participation. Tickets: \$7; under 2 years old are free. Call 236-SHOW for tickets and information, or visit www.TheBuddyClub.com.

The City of El Cerrito, offers special programs for children from 22 months to five years of age. These programs are designed to offer parents an opportunity to leave their pre-school children in a safe atmosphere under qualified supervision. The program for ages 22 months to 3-1/2 years meets Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is continuous as long as space is available. Located at 7007 Mooser Lane. For more information, call Judie, 215-4371.

LBGTQ Parent and Prospective Parent Groups meet the first Saturday of the month 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with concurrent childcare. All groups meet at the Pacific Center at 2712 Telegraph Ave. in Berkeley. Donations are requested, but not required. For information or to RSVP contact Anna at familyparent@yahoo.com or 415-789-8560 classes.

The Ann Martin Children's Center offers eight "Support Groups For Mothers," sessions for first time mothers and babies their babies under 5 months. Experienced facilitator. For information: 524-0821

Lawrence Hall of Science, UC Berkeley's public science museum and center for K-12 science and math education offers three residential summer science camps, including two camps held at actual University of California field research stations; and three Sierra backpacking summer science camps. Each camp emphasizes fun outdoor science explorations through hands-on, inquiry-based activities, as well as lots of traditional camp fun. Each camp has a unique theme, and is designed for a specific age group. Call 642-2275 or e-mail to: hsinfo@uclink.berkeley.edu. To register, call 642-5134.

Theater Rats, Julia Morgan's kid's theater camp program, offers swimming, singing, dancing, acting, and field games as some of its exciting activities. The camp is a two-week session for kids 6-14. Call 883-7023 for additional information.

Health

Charcot Marie Tooth (CMT) support group meets Saturdays bimonthly at West Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave. from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neuropathic disorder. Call 524-3506 for additional information.

YWCA Health and Community Education: drop in classes in dance, fitness, yoga, martial arts and more; University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, 848-6370; \$8 - \$10.

Health

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Community

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, sponsors Resume Clinics on Tuesday afternoons, or by appointment. To sign up for an appointment, leave a message several days before you would like to meet. Anne Levine Ph.D. has a background in Design and Education. For the past 10 years, she has assisted in producing numerous resumes as part of her desktop publishing business. Call 848-6370 for additional information.

Marion Rosen, founder of Rosen Method bodywork and movement, presents the Method through lecture, demonstration, and experimental practice. Rosen is joined in the presentation by Sara Webb, Senior Teacher of Rosen Method bodywork. Location: Feldenkrais Resources, 830 Bancroft Way. Admission: \$10. Reservations are strongly recommended. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Abby Paige, at 845-6666.

Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services presents a new series of free Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) classes. The classes give basic, practical information, including hands-on training in fire suppression, light search and rescue, and disaster first aid. All classes are held at the first department's Emergency Operations Center, 997 Cedar St. The classes are open to everyone, 18 or older, who lives or works in Berkeley. To register, or for more information, call the Office of Emergency Services, 644-8736.

Berkeley Art Museum, Pacific Film Archive offers a guided tour of Equal Partner: Men and Women Principals in Contemporary Architectural Practice presented by graduate students from the UC-Berkeley Department of Architecture, College of Environmental Design on Alternating Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and on Sundays at 2 p.m. For additional information call 642-0808.

Overeaters Anonymous meet Fridays at 1:30 PM at the Northbrae Community Church in Berkeley, 941 The Alameda between Solano and Marin avenues, in Room 2—the childcare room—parents may bring their children. This organization is for individuals who eat compulsively? For further information, call Katherine at 525-5231.

Toastmasters, do it now. Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

Civil Rights activists needed. Write the ACLU chapter of Berkeley, Albany, Richmond, and Kensington. P.O. Box 11141, Berkeley, CA, 94701.

"Work Buddies": volunteers needed to perform volunteer work with people in early stage Alzheimer's Disease. Minimum six-month commitment, two to three hours per week. Training provided. Contact Nannette Lipton, 644-8292.

Psychic Healing clinic: 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays; free clinic at the Academy for

ACROSS

- 1 Got a look at
- 7 Mazda model
- 12 Like fresh water
- 19 Jeanne d'Arc, c.g.
- 20 Prefix with type
- 21 On the payroll
- 22 GUIDELINE
- 24 Arboreal creature
- 25 "___ charge!"
- 26 Whups
- 27 San ___, Calif.
- 29 Federal agency
- 30 Where jackets are lined up
- 32 Change a head
- 34 They come out at the seams
- 35 Hibernia
- 36 Burdened
- 37 Musical in which musical chairs is played
- 39 Road curve
- 42 AIRLINE
- 44 Like some complexes
- 47 Knee, essentially
- 49 Old radio's "___ Maxwell's Party Line"
- 50 Browne
- 52 Doofus
- 53 Appropriate
- 54 Wardrobe item from "The Mikado"
- 55 Lecture hall
- 57 Frozen Wacker
- 58 Having two univalent metal atoms
- 60 Elbow grease
- 63 Stick-to-it-ive types
- 66 DEADLINE
- 69 Tony Awards category
- 72 Place
- 73 Grovel
- 77 Web site address ending
- 78 End of ___
- 80 Ice remark?
- 82 Beau
- 83 Bite
- 86 Suffix with dextr-
- 87 Major silver exporter
- 89 Shaw who wrote "Love of My Life"
- 90 Busy
- 92 BOWLINE
- 96 At all
- 97 More suitable
- 98 Early computer
- 99 Meets with
- 101 Vagrants
- 103 Need to arrest?
- 105 Turns on
- 109 W.W. II arena
- 110 Brand with the old slogan "It's blended, it's splendid"

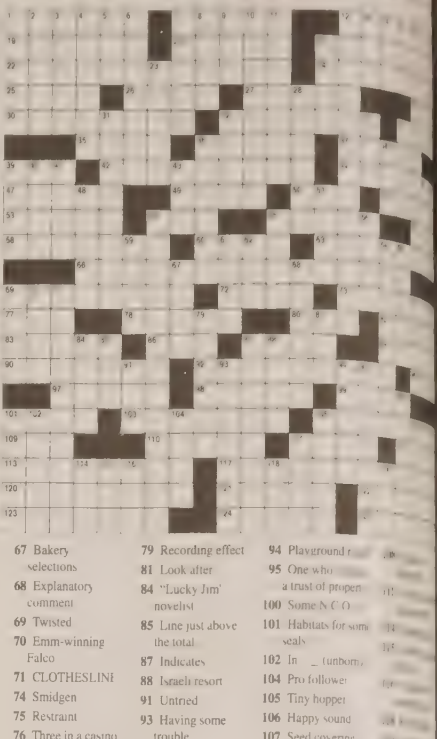
WHAT'S MY LINE?

By DAVID J. KAHN / Edited by WILL SHORTZ

- 111 Words before "of money" or "of gold"
- 112 Mother of Hades
- 113 You shouldn't go through this
- 117 HEADLINE
- 120 Chinese restaurant offering
- 121 Cheri of "S.N.L."
- 122 Mario Puzo best seller
- 123 One showing empathy
- 124 In shape
- 125 Cross over

DOWN

- 1 Abbr. on a college building
- 2 Painter Andrea del ___
- 3 Key locale
- 4 Appeal to
- 5 Hot time in Haiti
- 6 Like some river areas
- 7 Scene of heavy W.W. II fighting
- 8 Rainbow
- 9 Not hesitate
- 10 Source of some frenzy
- 11 Freshens
- 12 OUTLINE
- 13 Word of encouragement
- 14 ___ kwon do
- 15 1998's 69-Across
- 16 LIFELINE
- 17 Auto dealer's offer
- 18 Old Icelandic writings
- 21 Leave in
- 23 "That ___ lady"
- 28 Salon worker
- 31 Approaches from behind, with "on"
- 32 Criticizes, with "on"
- 33 Time of nervousness, perhaps
- 34 Suffix with neur-
- 36 Nymphet
- 38 Freudian topics
- 39 Barak of Israel
- 40 Acapulco acceptance
- 41 Brushoff
- 43 1st neighbor
- 45 During
- 46 Business concern
- 48 Payola
- 51 Bonanza
- 54 UNDERLINE
- 55 Bent knee movement
- 56 ___ good example
- 59 On the Coast, maybe
- 61 Earthen pot
- 62 A mean Amin
- 64 Trouble
- 65 Zeal



Psychic Studies in Berkeley, aura cleansing, stress relief; 1-800-642-9355.

SMART project: the Alcohol Research Group in Berkeley is conducting a study to compare the cost and effectiveness of two kinds of substance abuse treatment: medical model day treatment and social model day treatment. By calling 1-888-249-8802 and agreeing to do three interviews, individuals chosen for the study receive free treatment at existing treatment programs.

The Edible Schoolyard, an organic gardening and cooking program at Berkeley's King Middle School, seeks volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335 for information.

English-in-Action lets you make friends from around the world. Volunteer as a conversation partner with a foreign UC scholar/student for one hour a week YWCA, at Berkeley, Call 843-9716.

Women's Daytime Drop-in Center in Berkeley: serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, needs volunteers. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For more information, call 466-5663.

Exhibits

Bentley School presents "Stone Carving," an art show featuring the soapstone carvings of African artists from Zimbabwe and Bentley student artists (grades 5 through 8) from 5-8 p.m. on March 6-7 at Shawwan Gallery, 4176 Piedmont Ave. Gala opening event is from 5-8 p.m. on March 6. For more information, call David Hirschopf at 843-

2512 at Bentley School or Lillian White at Shawwan Gallery at 923-1222.

Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center, 1414 Walnut St., presents "Passages into Aging," celebrating the transition from mid-life to elderhood, with Miriam Chaya Fields, Timbrel and Torahs from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Monday Feb. 26. Donation: \$5. For more information, call 549-9447 ext. 110.

Traywick Gallery, 1316 Tenth St., presents two exhibitions: "New Paintings," by Amanda Hass, and "Recent Landscapes," by Olivia Kuser. The exhibitions continue through March 24. Gallery hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Sunday and Monday. Call 527-1214 for more information.

The Cecile Mouchnek Gallery, 1809 D Fourth St. (upstairs), presents an exhibition entitled "Lesson of Things," new works by Emily Payne, through March 11. Payne takes apart books and reassembles them into sculptural forms that use the spines, the pages and the cloth covers. This is a new series using the same method of taking apart another familiar object—shoes. For more information, call 549-1018.

The Kala Art Institute, 1060 Heinz Ave., presents an exhibition of recent work in the complex and rarefied process known as photogravure through March 30. Developed in the 19th century and often referred to as "the aristocrat of photographic process," photogravure prints achieve luxurious tones ranging from luminous whites to rich velvety blacks. Gallery hours: Tuesday-Friday, noon to 5 p.m., or by appointment. Call 549-2977 for more information.

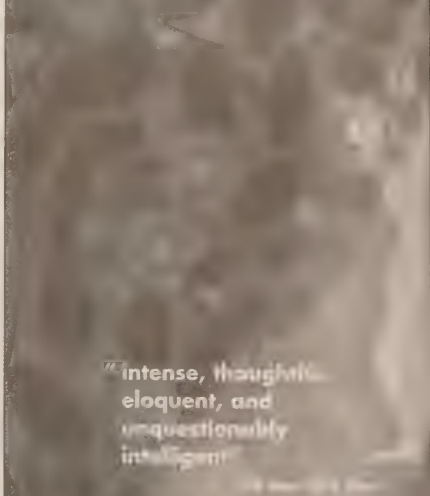
Red Oak Realty's Art Gallery, 1891 Solano Ave., Berkeley, presents "Still Life and Landscapes," by artist Pamela

Markmann through March 24

See CALENDAR, Page C6

WEST COAST PREMIERE

A lyrical portrait of a fragmented family



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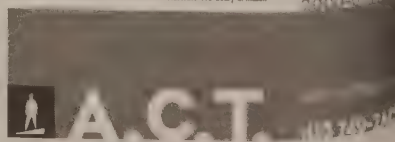
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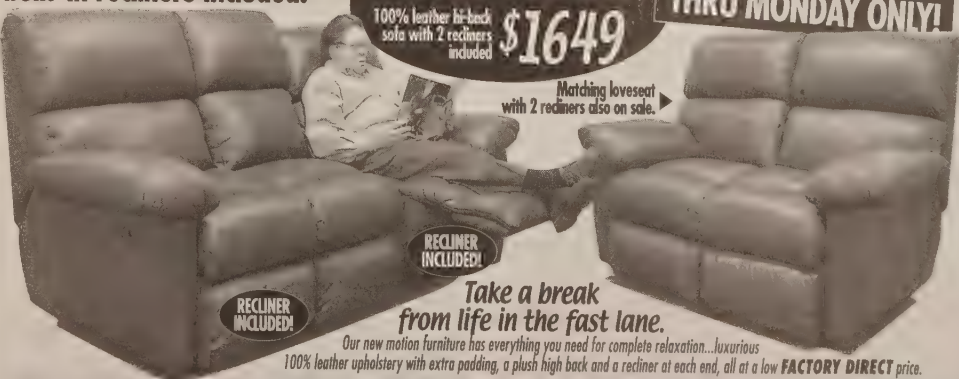
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carey perloff, artistic director
heather kitchen, managing director

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EL CERRITO PTA NEWS

El Cerrito Council of PTAs

CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION FORMS ARE DUE NOW
 Linda Takimoto, 1636 Navellier
 El Cerrito 94530.

Feb. 28, Final deadline for all
 eScrip sales. Send to Melita Agababian, 7628
 El Cerrito 94530.
 Mar. 5, Council meeting, 7 p.m.
 at the faculty room at Pinole Middle
 School, 1575 Mann St., Pinole.
 Agenda will include presentation of
 state of officers for next year's by-
 laws and updating your unit's by-
 laws. Contact Suzanne Lieban if you
 wish to make any nominations to the
 Board for next year, 233-
 0070 or mrsLieban@skunkbox.com

Pinole Middle School

Join Adams PTA — Member-
 ship is only \$6. Checks are payable
 to "Adams PTA". Our next PTA pro-
 gram is to help sponsor a student run
 open on Wednesday mornings.
 Please mail all checks to Adams PTA,
 100 Patterson Circle, Richmond, CA
 94805.

The Adams library is collecting
 empty computer ink jet cartridges
 (small ink jet cartridges — black
 or color; no laser cartridges or
 toner cartridges). All proceeds
 will be used to purchase computer-re-
 paired materials for the library com-
 puters. There is a collection bucket
 in the library on the third floor.

■ We have received the Albertson
 Community Partner cards. Anyone
 who shops at Albertsons can help us
 by using the Albertson Community
 Partner card. There is no cost to the
 member. If you are interested in re-
 ceiving a card, please send a note to
 the Adams PTA at 5000 Patterson Cir-
 cle, Richmond, CA 94805 and a card
 will be sent to you. We are also par-
 ticipating in the Target Guest Card
 and eScrip program. If you are inter-
 ested in helping, please call the PTA
 voice message line or send an email
 message to cchan2429@aol.com.

■ PTA Voice Message Line is
 (510) 464-1360, ext 70 — Call this
 number to hear about upcoming
 events, Academy updates, minimum
 due schedules and special dates.

■ PTA E-mail — Weekly PTA bul-
 letins are being sent. Any commu-
 nity members interested in sub-
 scribing should send their e-mail
 address to Connie Chan Kucera at
 cchan2429@aol.com

Castro Elementary

■ March 7, Pizza Night, 5-8 p.m.
 at Pizza Roma (located in the Safe-
 way parking lot at Moerser and San
 Pablo Avenues in El Cerrito). Dine
 in or take out, mention Castro and
 25 percent of the evenings sales will
 go to Castro School.

■ Fund-raisers: Castro is enrolled
 in eScrip (ID#137627554), Albert-
 son's, Target, and SchoolPop
 fundraising programs. Call Peggy

Wilcox at 236-0761 to find out how
 you can benefit Castro when you
 shop.

El Cerrito High

■ March 1, PROGRESS REPORT
 NIGHT, 6:30-8 p.m., ECHS GYM.
 This is an evening for parents to pick
 up their student's progress reports
 and meet with individual teachers.
 We encourage all parents to attend.

■ March 1, PIZZA NIGHT, 5-8
 p.m. Order a pizza and mention
 ECHS and Pizza Roma will donate
 25 percent of the evenings profits!
 Pizza Roma is located on Moerser
 Lane and San Pablo Avenue in the
 Safeway Shopping Center. All money
 raised will go toward our safe and
 sober Grad Nite celebration. Mark
 your calendars!

■ NEW SCRIP SALES: El Cerrito
 High School PTSA is enrolled in the
 eScrip program. Our group ID is
 5221087. Individual members pay an
 annual fee of \$10 to register their
 Safeway loyalty or other credit cards
 with eScrip. A percentage of the sup-
 porters' purchases is contributed by
 the merchant partner to ECHS PTSA
 on a monthly basis. Participating
 merchants are: Safeway, Andronico's,
 Cody's Books, Chevron, Old Navy,
 Eddie Bauer, and Payless Shoes. You
 may register online at [www.escrip-
 inc.com](http://www.escrip-

 inc.com) or look for registration forms
 at various school events. Any ques-
 tions, call Cheryl Black 527-
 7070(days) or 237-1696(eve).

■ Want to be kept informed of all
 events, activities, tests date, college
 info, etc.? Join the ECHS email for-
 um. All school notices will be e-
 mailed to you. To sign up, please e-
 mail Joann Steck-Bayat at
 jsbayat@home.com. Be sure to spec-
 ify that you would like to be added
 to the ECHS email forum.

Harding Elementary

■ Scrip purchases — contact
 Holly Winter at 525-0273.

■ After School Classes include
 tennis, dance and drama. Call the
 school at 525-0273 or the El Cerrito
 Community Center for more details.

Portola Middle School

■ SPONSOR A MUSICAL
 CHAIR. Portola music families know
 the importance of providing a good
 foundation of love and support for
 our children. We also know the value
 of providing our children with a solid
 foundation in the arts. There are
 some practical, yet essential founda-
 tions that are in severe disrepair in
 our Music Room ... the chairs. Due
 to constant use, hour after hour and
 year after year, the chairs in the
 music room are unbalanced and
 worn with age. They need to be put
 into retirement. We challenge our
 greater Portola community to help
 raise money for new music room

See EL CERRITO, Page C9

ALBANY PTA NEWS

By Kay Weinstein

Albany PTA Council

Feb. 26, Regular Meeting, 7:30
 a.m. Albany Library. Topic: Disaster
 Preparedness

Albany High School

Interested parents may receive
 daily bulletin and important an-
 nouncements by e-mail. Contact
 Gjerde.

Feb. 23, Sadie Hawkins Dance,
 7-9 p.m. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
 CHAPERONE 7-9 p.m. or 9-11
 p.m. shifts; call Ms. Ashley, 559-6550,
 4212, or e-mail Mr. Booker,
 March 2-4, March 9-11, musi-
 c "West Side Story," Thurs. and Fri.
 4 p.m., Sunday at 4 p.m., AHS Lit
 Theater; reserve tickets now by
 calling 559-6550, ext. 6588. \$7 adults,
 students/seniors.

March 5, PTA Meeting, 7:15,
 Albany Library.
 SCRIP Orders: If you shop at
 Safeway, sign up for eScrip by call-
 ing 1-800-400-7878, or register on-
 line at escrip.com. Old Navy is now
 available from eScrip. Register on-
 line for Andronico's at
schoolpop.com, or call 1-800-456-
 4212. We are currently out of Al-
 bany's Community Partners cards.
 Linda Okamoto at 525-6782. E-
 mail Linda at alanhome@lmi.net

Albany Middle School

Interested parents may receive
 daily bulletin and important an-
 nouncements by e-mail. Contact
 Linda Okamoto at

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for
 Homework Club, Monday-Thursday,
 3:45-5:15, AMS Library. If available
 daily, e-mail Sara Danielson at
sara@albamiddle.k12.ca.us

Feb. 28, Eighth Grade Infor-
 mation Night at AHS, 7 p.m., AHS
 Theater.

March 1, PTA Meeting, 7 p.m.,
 Albany Library.

SCRIP Orders: If you shop at
 Safeway, sign up for eScrip by call-
 ing 1-800-400-7878, or register on-
 line at escrip.com. Old Navy is now
 available from eScrip. Register on-
 line for Andronico's at
schoolpop.com, or call 1-800-456-
 4212. We can provide Albertson's
 Community Partners cards. Call
 Linda Okamoto at 525-6782. E-mail
 Linda at alanhome@lmi.net

REMINDER: Save and turn in
 General Mills boxtops for education
 to office. Questions? Call Nancy, 526-

the office.

Marin Elementary School

■ Berkeley Bowl, Ranch 99 Mar-
 ket and Natural Grocery paper
 SCRIP for sale Monday and Friday
 mornings from 8:30-9 and 9:30-10
 a.m. Orders can be placed in office
 at any time. Albertson's Community
 Partners Cards available at these
 times. Safeway and Whole Foods
 electronic scrip must be purchased
 from eScrip (1-800-400-7878 or es-
 crip.com).

■ Marin School account number
 is 136951780. Register online for An-
 dronico's at schoolpop.com or call
 1-800-456-1032.

■ REMINDER: Save and turn in
 General Mills boxtops for education
 to office.

Ocean View Elementary School

■ SCRIP for sale in the office.
 Safeway scrip must be purchased
 from eScrip (1-800-400-7878 or es-
 crip.com). Register online for An-
 dronico's at schoolpop.com, or call
 1-800-456-1032. We are now selling
 paper scrip from Ranch 99 Market.
 ■ RECYCLE used computer printer
 cartridges from your home or office.
 Look for bins in the library soon.

AUSD Board of Education

■ Feb. 27, regular meeting, 7:30
 p.m., Ocean View Multi-Purpose
 Room.

■ March 6, special meeting to
 take action on program/personnel re-
 ductions, 7:30 p.m., Ocean View
 Multi-Purpose Room.

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■ Support Albany Schools by go-
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 zon.com, drugstore.com and Land's
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 hoo.co)

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 Craig Stokes @ 262-2792

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Great Classical Music This Side of the Bay
 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 8 PM
Paramount Theatre
 Michael Morgan, Conductor
 Free Pre-Concert Lecture by Michael Fiday 7:05pm
Liszt Les Preludes
 Side-by-side with
 Oakland Youth Orchestra
R. Strauss Till Eulenspiegel
Nielsen Violin Concerto
 Leor Maltinski Violin
Michael Fiday
Automotive Passacaglia
 World premiere commissioned
 by The James Irvine Foundation
 PRESENTED IN PART BY
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TONIGHT 8PM
 Tickets as low as \$15
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 PARAMOUNT BOX OFFICE
 21st at Broadway, Oakland
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Calendar

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Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. through 4 p.m. Call 527-3387 for more information.

Albany Arts Committee presents "Art in the Bulb," photographs by John Albion through March 1 at the Albany Community Center Foyer Gallery, 100 Main Ave. Albany. For more information, call 524-9283.

City of El Cerrito presents Open Studio ongoing classes on Monday, 6-8 p.m. Experience with clay is not necessary. Opportunities will be provided for students to ex-

plore areas of clay work. Demonstrations and instruction will be provided on request. Admission: \$7.50 residents, \$9.38 nonresidents. The location: Tassajara Pottery Center, 2575 Tassajara Boulevard. For more information, call Judie at 215-4371.

Alta Bates Medical Center presents work by members of the California Watercolor Association at its Community Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. The gallery is in the main corridor to the left of the information desk and main entrance. Call 204-4444 for additional information.

New Pieces Gallery is located on Solano Avenue. New Pieces is the only gallery which shows quilts and soft cloth sculptures and dolls exclusively. The gallery is open during store business hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday Noon to 5 p.m. except major holidays. Details: 527-6779

Literary Events

The Reading Edge is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Alston Way. This computer scans printed text and reads it back aloud with a synthesized voice. It's available for anyone with a disability that requires its use to access print material. Users must complete a brief training session before using the Reading Edge; after that, reservations are needed. Call the Reference Desk at 644-6648 to set up a training session.

March is West County Schools kindergarten registration month

March is Kindergarten Registration Month in the West Contra Costa Unified School District. If your child turns 5 years old on or before Dec. 2, he or she is eligible to register for kindergarten at your neighborhood school for next fall.

The first day of school for the 2001-02 school year is Aug. 28, 2001 for schools on the traditional academic calendar, while July 31, 2001 is the first day for schools on the year-round calendar—Downer, King, Lake, and Seaview elementary schools.

Register your child at your neighborhood school (sometimes called the school of residence) from 9 a.m. to noon, or 1 to 3 p.m. on school days during March. Most schools will offer a.m. and p.m. kindergarten sessions; when you register, please indicate which session you prefer.

To register your child for kindergarten, bring the following papers to your neighborhood school: 1. Proof of age, such as a birth certificate or baptismal record. 2. Proof of immunizations. 3. Proof of residence, such as a current PG&E bill. Telephone bills are not accepted as proof of residence.

Immunizations are available at the Richmond Public Health Department Immunization Clinic, which is located on the first floor at 39th Street and Bissell Avenue. The clinic

is open 2-3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday; se habla Español. There is a \$7 fee per child. For families with two or more children, the clinic charges a family fee of \$13. TB tests are \$10 per adult or child. Health clinic staff requests that families bring previous immunization records for each child and that an adult accompany children at all times. For more information, call the Richmond Public Health Department Immunization Clinic at 510-374-3101.

El Cerrito

PAGE C7

A new musicians chair from the Corporation costs \$60. There are 100 chairs to be retired. Your chair may be made out to the Portola Music and sent to 638 Clay St., El Cerrito 94530. Questions/comments should be directed to 524-0400 or Joann 524-9464. All donations are tax-deductible and any amount will be gratefully accepted.

Feb. 27, Music Parents and PTA

meetings — 6:30 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. in the library.

Join Portola PTA — \$6 per person. Funds are used to supplement student programs and faculty needs. We also encourage you to get involved by volunteering. We look forward to meeting you. Send your check (payable to Portola PTA) to Nancy Toombs, Attn: Portola Membership, 8188 Terrace Drive, El Cerrito 94530.

Fund-raisers: Portola is enrolled in eScrip and Albertson's fundraising programs. Call Peggy Wilcox at 236-0761 to find out how you can benefit Portola while you shop.

Teen Center — Monday through Thursday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Community Center. Fee — \$6 drop in or \$50 monthly. Great activities, trips and special events. Call 215-4370 for more information.

E-mail forum — school information and meeting notices direct to your email box. Send your e-mail address and request to be on the mail list to Joann Steck-Bayat at jsbayat@home.com.

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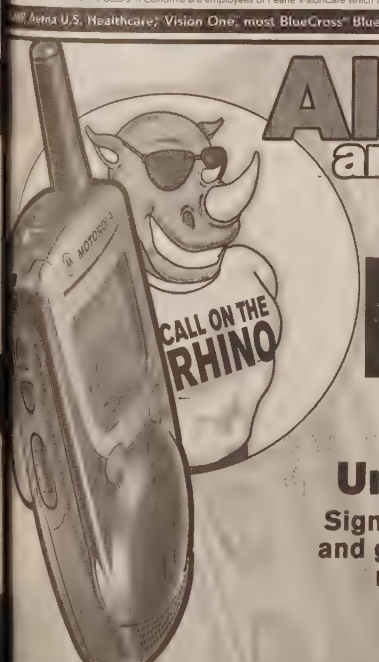
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For the Pork Lover: A quick & easy cold weather recipe

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German Pork Chops

4 1-inch thick boneless chops
1 med. onion, chopped
2 large carrots, peeled & chopped
3 large celery stalks, chopped
2 Bockwurst sausage, par boiled,
sliced thin
1/4 cup chopped gherkin pickles
1 large potato, peeled and sliced
very thin

1 large tomato chopped
1 can beef bouillon
salt, pepper & caraway seed

Salt & pepper pork. sprinkle
liberally with caraway seeds on both
sides and press them into the meat.
Dredge in flour, add oil to pan,
brown chops on both sides, remove
from pan, add 1 tbs. oil, celery,
onions & carrots, sauté for a minute
or two, place chops on top of
mixture, then spread the chopped
Bockwurst around and on top of

chops, then the layer of chopped
gherkins, then layer the thinly sliced
potatoes, then the layer of chopped
tomatoes. Finish with pouring the

bouillon over the entire
cover and simmer for 35

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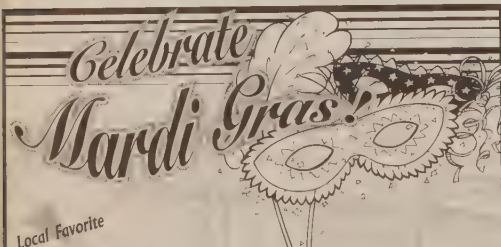
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Auto Plus

Advertising supplement to The Montclairian, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

February 23, 2001

Section D

Classic Classics Fabulous fins on the '56 Chrysler Imperial [D2]

Drive. She Said

By Denise McCluggage

Get the facts before buying your new car

You can't buy an SUV! Sport utility vehicles use too much gas, take up too much space and pollute the air. Get a station wagon. That's what her friends told a woman I know. This woman was on the list of the much-acclaimed Acura MDX to receive an aging SUV. She had learned the hard way before the luncheon gathering at which she announced the happy news. That's when the verbal ganging-up began.

Considering herself a socially conscious member of the environment, she crept off to draw her MDX order and began a search for an alternative. She tried the station wagons that the friends had named. They were not tall enough to suit the sort of cargo she often carried. (Being a frequent user of outsize things at antique stores and flea markets.)

Station wagons had less horsepower. None of the ground clearance she preferred for her family's summertime treks to a relaxing back-country fishing cabin or to meet snow challenges of their favorite ski resorts. Besides, few offered the four-wheel drive or sure-footedness in the weather uncertainties year round.

She liked that smug feeling when weather-broke into "regular programming" of afternoon snows making the go-home drive hazardous. She knew that the 4WD she could pick up her kids — and



HONDA'S PASSPORT, powered by a 3.3 liter V-6 engine, still manages to get good gas mileage

Honda Passport's claim to fame is durability

■ A sturdy but economical SUV

The life of my U.S. passport is only 10 years. The 2001 Honda Passport could be good for more than 10 years while providing miles of reliable performance. Durability is Passport's claim to fame. Honda boasts that it is one of the most durable vehicles on the road today. Adding to their accolades for the new model is a list of equipment and safety features.

Another boast: a durable 205 horsepower 3.3-liter V-6 engine that will easily tow up to 3,500 pounds. Yet in spite of the

Passport power, its fuel economy is quite respectable for an SUV: 16 city and 20 highway. I gave the Passport a good workout on some off-road areas. It is a simple task to "shift on the fly," into four-wheel drive, which provides better traction when driving over sandy or snow-covered roads.

I took the Passport a step further and climbed some steep hills. I dropped down into 4WD low. It's a great feeling to be climbing up a hill, step on the accelerator

Keane on Wheels

By Tom Keane

and immediately surge ahead faster. Even though the Passport doesn't have the monstrous proportions of some off-road vehicles, the underside of the Passport has a respectable 8 inches of ground clearance. This vehicle also has skid plates that protect the radiator and fuel tank. They were reassuring to me as I went bouncing up the rocky hill.

They say, "beauty is in the eye of the beholder," but I can't imagine anyone not tak-

ing a fancy to this good-looking vehicle. A feature that grabbed my eye was the overall powerful appearance with impressive looking body cladding on the lower portion. My tester, the Passport EX, stands on wide 16-inch mud-and-snow rated tires wrapped around machine finished alloy wheels. Although the overall size of this powerhouse isn't overwhelming, the interior is plenty big.

The Passport EX with 4WD sells for \$29,690 including destination charges. The

See KEANE, Page D2

See DRIVE, Page D2

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Owner of 1956 Imperial boasts of fantastic fins

Classic Classics
By Vern Parker

Bean counters traditionally have been able to point to the most economical car or, at the very least, the one that costs less to build. Often, however, they miss the intrinsic values.

Jim Bennett, an economics professor, has not forgotten the value of stopping to smell the roses — or in his case, stopping to admire a tailfin. Since his youth in Tennessee he has long been infatuated with the mid-1950s Imperials, with what he describes as their "magnificent warped tailfins."

Though the Imperials of that era were never thought of as particularly practical, they were, in Bennett's words, "the coolest cars ever built." In 1956 the Chrysler Imperial sprouted tailfins.

The assembly line, on June 18, 1956, gave birth to a raven black, six-passenger, four-door sedan with a three-speed, push-button Torqueflite automatic transmission in order to handle the 280-horsepower generated by the 354-cubic-inch hemi-head V-8 engine.

The new arrival, one of 6,821 built, weighed in at 4,575 pounds and cost about \$1,050 a pound. The base price was \$4,832. Forty years after those 1956 Imperials rolled off the assembly line, Bennett decided to take action.

In October 1996 he saw an ad offering the aforementioned Imperial for sale. Even at 86,000 miles, it qualified as a low-mileage car since the annual average was 2,150 miles.

The Imperial was in Upper Darby, Pa., so a trip to investigate was arranged. Bennett was taken by the four working vent windows — remember when all cars had such amenities? A sign of the times, when even Ronald Reagan was touting the

benefits of Chesterfield cigarettes, is the four cigarette lighters scattered about the spacious interior. Bennett purchased the Imperial and later returned to drive it home to his Virginia home.

"It's a pleasurable driver," Bennett said without surprise. "I brought it home on I-95, and you haven't lived until you've driven a 40-year-old car on the interstate highway," he said. The Imperial did fine, he recalls. It was the other drivers, unaccustomed to truly gargantuan cars with tailfins, that were the problem. "I had no trouble keeping up with traffic," Bennett said.

Power accessories on the car include power steering, power antenna, power windows, and power brakes. Additionally, the luxury car is equipped with air conditioning. Solex tinted glass aids in the cooling effort. A most unusual feature is the rare Chryslermatic clock located in the hub of the steering wheel. Bennett has learned that eight days after the car was completed it was shipped to Bethlehem, Pa.

After that the history of his Imperial becomes cloudy. He notes that when he bought the car it was equipped with the impossible-to-find and somewhat dangerous "Southwind" gas heater.

Even in the chill of November, he was fearful of using the heater. Once home, he hastily removed the fire-prone heater and, abiding by the first law of antique auto ownership, did not throw it away. Sure enough, within months, he learned of a fellow 1956 Imperial owner who was searching for a Southwind heater.

"One man's trash is another man's treasure," Bennett philosophizes. The five-button transmission pattern has



FINS, FINS, FINS, gunsight taillights and 280 horses generated by a 354-cubic-inch hemi-head V-8 engine

the neutral button in the 12 o'clock position, with reverse at 9 o'clock and drive at 3 o'clock. The first and second gear buttons are side by side at the 6 o'clock position. The huge car is remarkably economical to operate, Bennett said.

He has added about 3,000 miles to the 86,000 miles on the car when

he became its owner, and they have all been trouble-free. This is where the economist side and the romantic side of Bennett merge.

He has forsaken any plans to turn the car into a showpiece. No, he's going to turn it into a daily driver.

He loves the sight in his rearview

mirror of the two gun-sight taillights raised on their chrome pedestals above the soaring tailfins. He takes solace in the knowledge that more than a foot behind the taillights at the end of the chrome trim outlining the taillights are the backup lights. Another 6 inches behind that is the rear bumper.

Bennett reports almost daily he sees "whiplash" cases as he drives. "Driving n... see 'whiplash' cases as I... tically on." With both drive... cense, he said... style."

Drive

FROM PAGE D1

those of the sports car aficionados across the street. Kids. Her vehicle was often full of them. Here was where station wagons — and many other SUVs — fell off her short list. Space.

The MDX came standard with a third row of seats and thus a seven-passenger capacity. She liked the fact that all seven seats had both a belt and shoulder harness. So, maybe the usual load is only four kids. The driver makes five. Isn't that enough room? It bothered her that carrying four meant one child had to sit up front, not the safest place for small people.

With a seven-passenger capacity

she would usually be the only one up front. "Chauffeur-mode," she called it. So what of this gas-guzzling monster she was warned about? "All SUVs get less than ten miles to the gallon," one friend had insisted. She discovered that the MDX (rated at 19 mpg city, 23 highway) was not much different than many of the station wagons she checked out. Indeed, its highway figure bested one.

Besides, she knew that gas mileage depended a great deal on how the vehicle was driven and by whom. She got more out of a gallon than anyone else in the family. About taking up too much space, the MDX was shorter than one all-wheel drive wagon she looked at and only a couple of inches wider. SUVs, like the three bears, come in different sizes.

The MDX was a middling user of space. And when toting and lugging kids, adults and stuff it was uniquely efficient. As she learned all this information her dander began rising. Why had she let her friends overwhelm her with misinformation? And why had she allowed herself to be intimidated by the know-it-alls? The crowning issue was that bit about SUVs "all" spewing dirty emissions into the public air.

She discovered that the MDX was classified as ULEV. If the alphabet soup is confusing, that means that Acura's 7-passenger carryall was, by California standards, an "ultra low emissions vehicle." That's better than the emission standard of most cars. So she quickly got in touch with her Acura dealer. Although she has to wait for delivery, she believes the MDX will be worth it.

And now, rather than get all new friends, she has enlightened the ones she had with the facts. The moral of this tale is: before you buy a vehicle, car or SUV, know that vehicle. How does it suit your life and the way you will use it? Only you know that. It is indeed wasteful for a single person to pop to the store for a pint of ice cream.

But if seven to nine people are going somewhere, it's usually less wasteful of resources to travel together than for all to drive in pairs. Or in the most common American way — singularly. The point is don't be swayed by weighted anti-SUV talk without knowing the facts.

What's best for you — and the environment — is to choose transportation appropriate to the users. That could be a roadster or an SUV.

Keane

FROM PAGE D1

EX model approaches the top of the line, but my tester didn't have any options. I had cloth seats instead of leather. Nevertheless, the standard equipment would be considered extras with other manufacturer's vehicles.

For example, the EX had dual heated power mirrors, which is useful for clearing off ice or mist. I had a rear window wiper, halogen headlamps, and anti-lock brakes. In addition to dual frontal airbags and three-point safety belts, adjustable head restraints, and child proof rear door locks, the new

model now features LATCH, a new acronym for Low Anchor and Tethers for Children. My tester had a moonroof with tilt features, leather wrapped steering wheel, and simulated wood grain, power windows, door locks, air conditioning, cruise control, tinted glass for the front doors and rear hatch. Other thoughtful features: cargo area net and cover, and adjustable steering column.

Understandably, some SUVs hold much more, but they are monsters. My tester is of moderate size and easy to handle. I didn't have any problems parking it or maneuvering in tight spaces. Storage in the rear is accessible simply by opening the top glass. Or the door opens (from the curb side) for easier access to the cargo area.

SPECIFICATIONS: 2001 HONDA PASSPORT EX

VEHICLE TYPE..... 5-passenger, 4-door sport utility with 4WD
BASE PRICE... \$29,250 (as tested: \$29,690)
ENGINE TYPE..... V6 24-valve
DOHC w/MPFI DISPLACEMENT... 3.2-liter
HORSEPOWER (net) 205 at 5400 rpm
TORQUE (lb-ft) 214 at 3000 rpm
TRANSMISSION..... 4-speed automatic
WHEELBASE..... 106 in. 2692 mm
TREAD (front/rear) 60 / 60 in. 1524 / 1524 mm

OVERALL LENGTH..... 178 in. 4521 mm
OVERALL WIDTH..... 70 in. 1778 mm
HEIGHT..... 69 in. 1752 mm
TURNING (curb-to-curb) 38 ft. 11.5 m
CURB WEIGHT..... 3,878 lbs. 1759 kg
FUEL CAPACITY..... 19 gals. 72 L
EPA MILEAGE RATING... 16 city, 20 hwy
ASSEMBLY PLANT..... Lafayette, Ind.
STRONG FEATURE..... Power
WEAK FEATURE..... Nothing worth mentioning

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2002 Ram displays more powerful styling

Truck Talk

By Tim Spell

BURN HILLS, Mich. — Even as a cloth draped over its new body, it was obvious the new-generation Dodge Ram 1500 pickup was different from the current model, poised alongside for comparison. When the covering was removed to expose the half-ton, 2002 Ram, fresh sheet metal, visions of the trucks were even more powerful than those created by its predecessor. This unveiling at DaimlerChrysler's Auburn Hills technology center was a preview to the official unveiling at the Chicago Auto Show. Since the current Ram blasted onto the scene as a 1994 model, more aggressively styled than anything else in the market, designers of the 2002 Ram met the challenge of delivering more powerful styling. Dodge's design mission, said Chuck Rightler, manager of truck business operations, was to continue to be bold and make the market follow.

Polarize the market with your styling — they will either love it or hate it on the other. While the 2002 model is a bumper-to-bumper redesign, initial encounters with the truck direct eyes to the massive front-end treatment. The enormous grille, which dwarfs its predecessor, is what Dennis Myles, manager of the Dodge design studio, calls the heart of the Ram image. Myles believes the front end is more expressive and robust, and amasses the Dodge image to a degree that will challenge the competition. The imposing grille is a Dodge signature cross-bar design, shown at introduction in both Sport and model styles. The Sport's cross-bar sections are filled with horizontal slats. Cross-bars and surrounding the SLT grille are chrome, honeycomb pattern fills the

openings. Another key ingredient in front-end styling is headlight design. A double-lamp treatment definitely adds dazzle, creating an effect Dodge designers call "jewel-like." These headlamps are cleanly planted into dropped fenders, which were popularized with the current Ram. Myles said the difference is the 2002's fenders are more expressive, with a more contemporary look that's much tauter in terms of execution. He also boasts the windshield's sweep is 5 degrees "faster," and its glass is seamlessly integrated into the A-pillars.

Along with SLT and Sport models, the 2002 Ram 1500 will be offered in base ST and uplevel SLT+ versions when it appears in dealerships this fall. These half-ton pickups will be available in 2WD and 4WD configurations, as well as standard and Quad Cab versions. On extended-cab models, most of the inches gained were used to beef up the rear compartment.

Doors leading to this expanded rear are forward-hinged with full-drop, roll-down windows. The doors open with dual stopping points for convenient access to a full-width bench seat.

The display model was fitted with the optional 60/40-split bench. Its cushions lifted easily to expose a clever folding load floor.

Made of sturdy metal, this hide-away floor can be unfolded to create flat cargo platform. Regular-cab seat travel has gained 1.5 inch, and behind-the-seat storage has significantly increased. Items can be stored in a large, removable bin mounted behind the seat.

Passengers sitting in the center position of the regular-cab's seat or Quad Cab's rear will benefit from a shoulder belt. This industry-first teams with



DODGE HAS A NEW ATTITUDE for its new line of Ram trucks: even more aggressive styling.

another — the availability of side-curtain airbags — fitted on Quad Cabs to protect passengers front and rear. Loaded or unloaded, Dodge reports the new Ram offers a better ride and less noise, vibration and harshness.

Scott Kunselman, manager of truck vehicle development, said the major contributor to this improved ride quality and NVH suppression

is an all-new hydroformed frame that's much stiffer and offers greater resistance to twisting and bending. Driving these wheels is a choice of three powerplants — 3.7-liter V-6, 4.7-liter V-8 and 5.9-liter V-8. The 3.7- and 4.7-liter engines are new to the Ram lineup, and the 5.9-liter is a carryover.

Both of the new engines offer

more horsepower, and torque comparable to the 3.9-liter V-6 and 5.2-liter V-8 engines they replace. The 3.7-liter generates 210 horsepower and 230 foot-pounds of torque, and the 4.7-liter produces 235 horsepower and 295 foot-pounds of torque. For workhorse grunt, the 5.9-liter delivers 245 horsepower and 335 foot-pounds of torque.

The standard transmission mate for the 3.7- and 4.7-liter engines is a five-speed manual, with a four-speed automatic optional. The 5.9-liter is partnered only with a four-speed automatic.

Tim Spell is the automotive writer for the Houston Chronicle Cars & Trucks section.

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Subaru of America introduces all-new WRX sedan Sport.

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league with such respected European all-wheel drive sports sedans as the Audi A4 Quattro and the BMW 325xi.

Small beginnings

Honda Motor Co., Ltd., is the largest engine maker in the world, producing more than 10 million engines annually for automobiles, motorcycles and power products, and for sale to other manufacturers worldwide.

Founded in 1948 as a producer of small motorcycles, Honda to-

day maintains more than 100 manufacturing facilities in 33 countries.

Practice makes perfect

For those not familiar with the feel when anti-lock brakes are functioning, it is advisable to try making a "panic stop" in an isolated area.

The vibration on the foot is normal. To pull one's foot off the brake pedal while the vibration is taking place defeats the advantage of anti-lock brakes.

Question for 'Auto Doctor' Junior Damato

Dear Doctor: I purchased a 2000 Dodge Durango with a 4.7-liter engine. After the odometer had registered 3100 miles, I opened the oil fill cap and found a lot of moisture that looked like a milkshake. I went back to the dealer and showed the service manager who was concerned and checked with Chrysler. He learned of Technical Service Bulletin No. 09-01-00, referring to foamy oil emulsion accumulation inside the oil fill. The technician installed the updated vent kit, but I still have foam buildup. Now he says this situation is normal. How can I clean out the water? Will there be any long-term effect? I am considering arbitration to have Chrysler buy back this Durango. Ray

Dear Ray: According to Chrysler, some moisture buildup in the oil fill is normal in cold climates. The rea-

son for the buildup is the easy-access location of the oil fill tube. Oil emulsion will result when warm engine vapors mix with fuel and moisture. This oil emulsion condenses on cool surfaces. As the engine warms up, oil emulsion mixes with oil vapors, and is drawn off by the PCV valve. According to Chrysler, the emulsion will not have any long-term effect. The only way to clean out the moisture is with engine flush. In some cases synthetic oil will cut down oil emulsion buildup. Short drives also are a factor with condensation buildup. To me, this situation does not seem normal, however, according to Chrysler, it is. As for your arbitration, I do not think you have any legal grounds for a buyback.

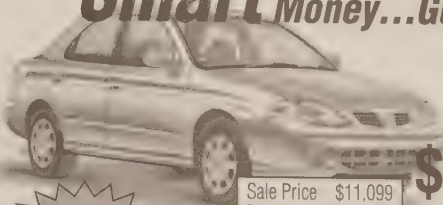
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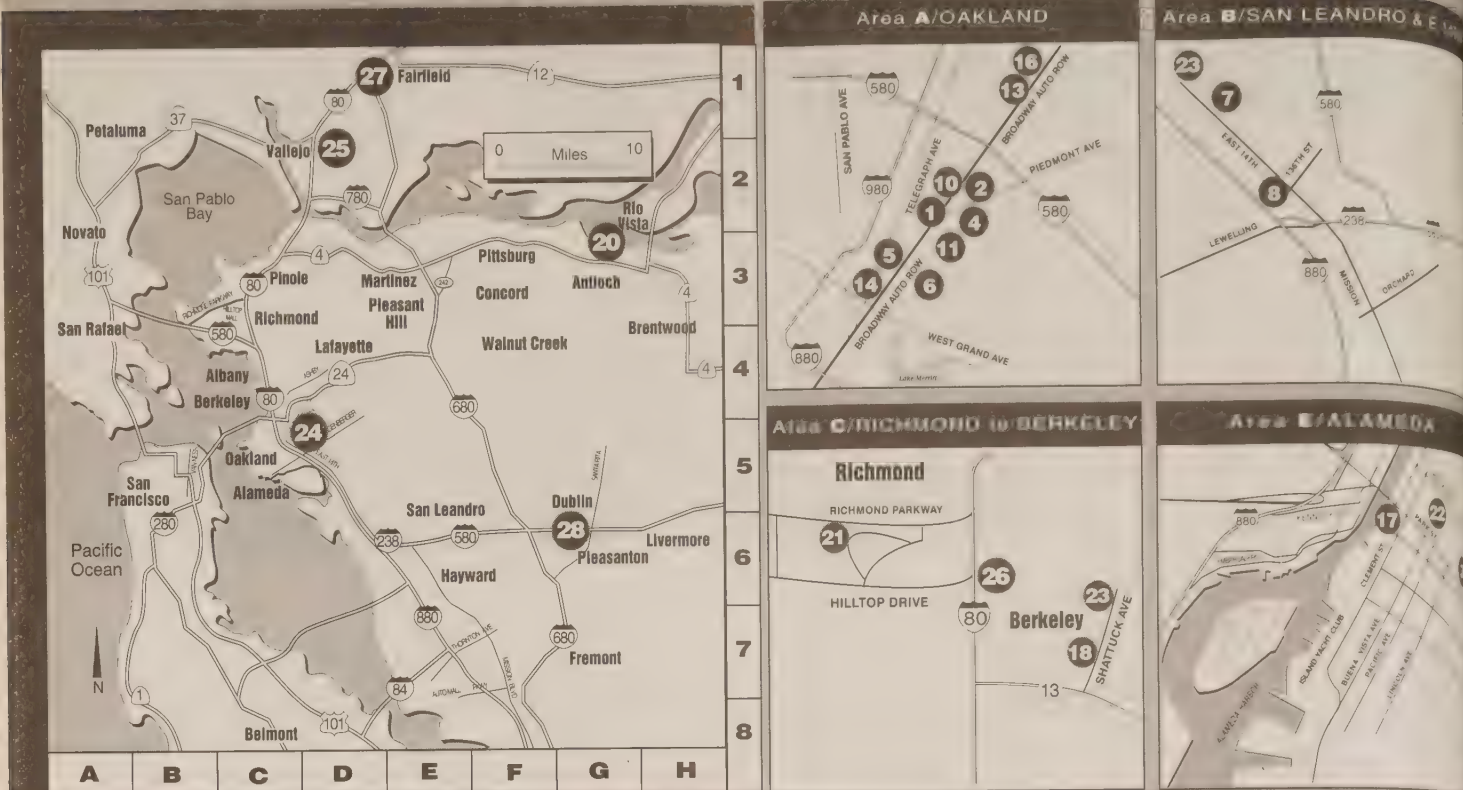
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We are looking for a re-
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in general ledger & distribu-
tion. Strong knowledge of
reconciliation. Strong
knowledge of Excel & Win-
dows. Must be a team player
in a fast-paced, growth
environment with growth
potential. Fax resume to
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outlook, strong work ethic.
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Friendly, supportive office in
Oakland. Advancement
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diversification and craves a
challenge. Must have a get
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Must possess strong ac-
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minimum of 2 years experi-
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full benefits and stock
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petitive sal. & full benif. Fax
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of complex accounting
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and a significant amount of
judgment in solving prob-
lems. The successful candi-
date will analyze accounting
documents for accounting
errors, reconcile accounts
data and take corrective
action as needed. Will also
reconcile complex ac-
counts payable/receivable
accounts and prepare
receivable reports and pre-
pare financial reports. Must
also assist in training lower
level staff. Excellent salary
and benefits. Please send
resume to: Berkeley HeartLab, Inc.
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• Must type 35 wpm

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deadlines. Excel. PO skills
req. Strong written & verbal
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putting, etc. Must be 18.
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req. to: 1500 Newell Ave.,
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250 Help Wanted

ACCOUNTING
Non-profit in East Bay
w/strong financial svcs. seeks
Accountant. Must have 3
yrs. exp. in general ledger &
related cash reconcilia-
tion. Must have 3 yrs. exp.
of 3 yrs. relevant exp. in
the financial svcs. industry
with computerized bank-
ing systems. A bachelor's
degree in accounting or re-
lated field is req'd. Competitive
compensation & briffa pkg.
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req. to Hiring Mgr.
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